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The friendly team with over
50 years of veterinary
experience



PHYSICAL PUNISHMENT WILL NEVER WORK TO CHANGE BEHAVIOUR.

What it does do is to create a pet who is fearful & insecure. It can make some dogs aggressive and attack you in it's defense. Positive reinforcement is the only way to train your pet. Cats can be trained too, but kindness and patience is required. Rather than a beating, remove your dog/cat quietly and calmly and putting them in their training crate is far more effective. They learn that the behaviour has consequences - it takes them away from their humans. Limiting their freedom when they get it wrong helps get the message across. They learn to respect the owner. Kindness, patience and rewards always work best.



BENTLEIGH
VETERINARY CLINIC
for healthier + happier pets

Welcome to our **JUNE 2019** Newsletter.

Winter has arrived along with shorter days and cold winds that can chill a soul to the bone! While pets may look comfy in their furry coats, if you are feeling cold then they will be feeling it too. Cold winds can whip heat away from the body very quickly, which can lead to frostbite or hyperthermia. If a pet is wet, then it will happen a lot quicker. Cold related illnesses can affect the young (puppies & kittens), sick or underweight pets, prolonged exposure to wind and rain, pets on medication and outside pets who don't have the room to move around and keep warm. Don't underestimate winter – your pet needs shelter, protection from rain and wind, and an extra ration of food as keeping warm uses more calories.



Allergy Sufferers Can Still Enjoy Having a Pet. Many allergy sufferers go without the pleasure of pet ownership because of their condition. But you don't have to go without, just choose your pet wisely and those itchy red eyes and scratchy throat can be a thing of the past. Check out these cute buddies.

The Bichon Frise – this cute adorable dog is a lower allergen pet and the dander (dry skin and pet saliva) is harder to escape their abundant curls. They are fun, cheerful and have a great personality.

The Sphynx Cat – this hairless character has a ton of personality. They are intelligent, curious and love people and can be a real cuddle addict.

Portuguese Water Dog – with their long coat you may not consider this gorgeous dog, but surprisingly their coat is not a problem. They love to swim, rarely shed, are easy to train, and can become the familie's best furry friend.

Devon Rex Cat – with short wavy coats, they are often considered one of the best cats for allergy sufferers. They love people and are mischievous and adorable pets.

Alternative pets - you can choose a snake, goldfish, parakeet or budgies, or even a pet pig! The pig has hair not fur, and they are intelligent and extremely trainable.

Our information packed website for healthier + happier pets is;
<https://www.bentleighvet.com.au/>

WINTER ALERT - For those who use anti-freeze in your vehicles, please remember that it takes very little to become deadly for your pet. Antifreeze contains ethylene glycol which is toxic to cats and dogs. If you pet walks through a spill on the ground and they lick it off a paw, that is enough to bring heart breaking consequences. Always keep the container locked away, preferable in a high cupboard. Pets are curious creatures, which can get them into trouble. Please remember - A VERY SMALL AMOUNT OF ANTIFREEZE IS DEADLY TO PETS.

HOT SPOTS ON DOGS



ACUTE MOIST DERMATITIS

Hot spots are circular lesions often found on the head, hip or alongside the chest area of your dog. Often caused by a local allergic reaction to a specific antigen. Flea bites are often the cause. These lesions will be moist, raw, inflamed and hairless. Your pet usually licks and bites the area, thus inflaming it even more.

Treatment involves clipping the hair around the area and cleaning the surface with a non irritating solution. In severe cases, antibiotics and painkillers may be needed. While these are less common in winter, always check your dogs behaviour. Excessive licking and biting can indicate a problem.

SNEAKY FLEAS & TICKS. You may think you will have a respite over winter from these nasty parasites. Sadly, this isn't so. They are out looking for a host to keep them warm and fed over the harsh winter. Don't drop your defences, keep up with the preventative measures for your pet as prevention of these unpleasant creatures is by far the best course of action.

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW TEAM MEMBER – Dr. AMY FLETCHER. She has a passion for animals, compassion for people, and a much needed sense of humor which are the driving force behind her choice of career. Dr Amy enjoys the friendly interaction with the clients and pets to find the underlying reason for their visit to the clinic. While her primary concern is for the animal, she understands all too well the emotional stress involved for owners with a sick or injured animal, having lost her own dog recently. You can relax knowing that she has extensive experience in treating and diagnosing a diverse array of diseases and injuries in animals, as well as the ability to implement effective treatment plans for quick and effective recovery. Amy has transitioned smoothly into her position at Bentleigh, quickly becoming one of the team. The qualities she brings to the Bentleigh Veterinary Clinic include a friendly attitude, empathy and support for both clients and administrative staff. Amy is keen to foster community involvement and promote education about animal health.



Please check out our Facebook page and webpage for a wealth of information.

<https://www.facebook.com/bentleighvet/>

<https://www.bentleighvet.com.au/>

Tips on How To Brush your Cat or Dogs Teeth! Start when your pet is young to get them used to you handling their mouth. Have everything handy before your start. Let your pet investigate the brush and taste the pet toothpaste - using a beef flavoured paste may help. Always use a toothpaste made for your cat or dog, human toothpaste is not good for them. Start by putting something yummy like peanut butter on your finger then wipe it around their mouth. Then after a day or so, try it with the toothpaste. Then introduce the toothbrush, just doing the outside of the teeth at first. Go slowly and let your pet get used to this new activity. Once they let you do that, include the side teeth, brushing side to side all the way to the back. Then introduce the brushing of the inside of the teeth. Just do it for a second, don't let them get upset by this motion. Be sure to look for signs of discomfort and stop the moment you see it. Brushing your cat or dogs teeth should never become a traumatic experience. Make it fun and you will find they will look forward to this extra attention and treats. Daily brushing of the teeth can prevent periodontal disease. There are some toys available that your pet can chew that also cleans their teeth so check out our pet supplies.



Courtesy of the www.LeFunny.net

LEAN PETS LIVE LONGER... Overweight pets are at risk with studies showing that a plump pet lives a shorter life than their healthy counterparts. They risk joint problems, heart disease, diabetes and much more. Keep them lean and active and they will be healthier and much happier.

NEVER GIVE YOUR PET HUMAN MEDICATION OR MEDICATION NOT PRESCRIBE BY A VET. Many human medicines are toxic to our pets. If you suspect that your pet has ingested a toxic substance, call us immediately for help.