ST BERNARDS ROAD VETERINARY CLINIC

# St Bernards Buzz

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#### Dental Season Discount Welcome to Spring!

This year, instead of Dental Month, we are having a Dental Season/Quarter!

Our fabulous Spring offer gives you a \$50.00 discount if your pet has a dental treatment or surgery.

If you're not sure about your pet's dental health, book in for a free dental check with one of our nurses.

### Don't Be Tempted!

It might be tempting to feed your pet human scraps as a treat, but you may be doing them harm and causing excessive weight gain. Keep this calorie translator in mind when you are having trouble saying 'no' to those adorable eyes!

#### For a 10kg Dog:

One biscuit = I hamburger for a human 30g piece of cheese = 1.5. hamburgers for a human One hot dog = 2.5 hamburgers for a human

#### For a 5kg Cat:

One potato chip = ½ a hamburger for a human 30g piece of cheese = 2.5. hamburgers for a human A glass of milk = 3 hamburgers for a human!



Drop in at anytime and we'll weigh your pet. We'll also advise you on treats that are suitable for your pet and are light on calories.

Remember, when it comes to fighting the flab, we are here to help.

## Adaptil and Feliway

Aussie is a beautiful girl who came in recently for dental treatment. As soon as she was admitted we put a pretty pink bandana on her and added Adaptil spray to help reduce her anxiety while she was in



hospital. Adaptil mimics the calming effect of the dog appeasing pheromone released by the mother dog 3 to 5 days after having a litter of puppies. We use both Adaptil and Feliway in the clinic to help keep our patients calmer and have them available for sale so you can use them at home. We're always looking at ways to make a visit to us happier and calmer for anxious patients.

Adaptil bandanas are another tool in our toolkit.

## **Vegan Diets For Cats**

Vegan diets may be a suitable choice for some people but what about our feline friends? The simple answer is that a vegan diet is a poor choice for your cat. These diets cannot provide all the nutrients that your cat requires for a healthy life. Cats are obligate carnivores. This means that cats require meat in their diet. They have specific nutrient needs that can only be supplied through the ingestion of animal meat. For example, taurine is a specific amino acid that is required by all cats. Without sufficient amounts of taurine in the diet, cats can experience heart disease, vision problems and other health issues. Vitamin A and Arachidonic acid also need to be provided in the food your cat is eating and these are primarily available through animal sources. As a result of these unique dietary requirements, a cat is unable to safely eat a vegan diet.



Please speak with one of our team members regarding the best food for your cat.

So if you choose to enjoy a vegan diet, please do not expect your cat to eat the same way!



Mufdi is one very beautiful Persian kitty who needs help grooming each year. Some long-haired cats can find it difficult to keep themselves groomed well enough to prevent matting. Persian cats are at an especially high risk of matting due their very thick coats. Matting of the hair can be quite painful as it constantly pulls at the skin. This is where we can step in and help.

Mufdi (along with her sister Linda) were admitted to our hospital in the morning and she was groomed under a light sedation. Some cats require a heavier sedation, but she is quite a tolerant old kitty! She has had what we call a lion clip, where we groom everything short except for her head and tail. Lion clips can prevent hairballs, matting and excess hair around the house!

Many cats love their new dos and you know what they say, it's only 2 weeks between a bad haircut and a good one!