Dental team tackles fear factor

A dentist in Sunderland has been offering children special visits to reduce the fear factor and help break down the barriers that stop many from visiting the dentist.

As part of National Smile Month and to celebrate the surgery’s 25th anniversary, David Vaughan Dental Care opened its doors to two Sunderland schools with the aim of improving the children’s oral health.

The visits, which were organised by Sunderland Extended Services and David Vaughan Dental Care, gave the children from Millfield Community Nursery and Diamond Hall Infants the opportunity to learn about caring for their teeth in a fun and positive way.

After arriving at the dental practice in Pallion, the children were able to meet the surgery’s team, including its dentist, hygienist, dental nurse and reception team.

A special role-play session with the dental nurse explained what happens during a visit to the dentist and showed the children what each member of the surgery’s team does.

David Vaughan, the practice’s dentist then showed the children how to care for their teeth properly, including how long to brush for, how much toothpaste to use and when to visit the dentist.

The surgery’s hygienist talked to the children about how different foods can affect teeth, which are the best to eat and when to avoid certain foods.

Councillor Pat Smith, cabinet member for Children’s Services within Sunderland City Council, said: ‘Many people who are frightened to visit the dentist can trace their phobias back to perhaps an unpleasant experience as a child.

Through trips like these, it allows the children to become more familiar with the process involved with visiting the dentist in a relaxed and informal environment. By walking the children through a visit to the dentist and getting the children involved in fun role-plays, helps to make it easier when it comes to future appointments, while also showing them the dentist isn’t a scary experience.’

Sheryn Vaughan, practice manager at David Vaughan Dental Care, hopes to organise other visits with Sunderland Extended Services so more children can benefit.

She said: ‘Good oral health is extremely important to your overall health whatever your age and regular visits to the dentist are an essential part of this process. We decided to help host these visits as part of National Smile Month so the children could come into the surgery and have fun and hopefully will be more comfortable when their next appointment comes around.’

Following the trip, each child received a special oral health goody bag, which included a suitable toothbrush, toothpaste, a two-minute timer, a tooth brushing chart and dental-care literature for parents as well as a special certificate.

To help support the trips, Pauline Wright, oral health promoter for South of Tyne & Wear Teaching Primary Care Trust, will also visit each of the schools to further promote the importance of dental care and healthy eating.

Vaughan Dental Care opened its surgery’s 25th anniversary, David Vaughan Dental Care, gave the children from Millfield Community Nursery and Diamond Hall Infants the opportunity to learn about caring for their teeth in a fun and positive way.

PracticeWorks

Practice Management Software and Digital Imaging Systems

Our team at PracticeWorks are recognised for their expertise in dental technology, from installation through to support and maintenance, whether it’s the most advanced practice management software or the most innovative digital imaging systems.

We have over 70,000 software installations worldwide to prove it. We also developed the first intraoral sensor, ‘RVG’, which started the digital radiography revolution.

And when you buy a PracticeWorks product you also buy great support. Our trainers, engineers and help desk staff are always on hand to ensure you get the most from our products and services.

So not only do you get the very best service at all times, you also get peace of mind from knowing that your satisfaction is our top priority.

The very best products, expertise, support and service brought to you on a plate

For more information or to place an order please call 0800 169 9692 or visit www.practiceworks.co.uk

© PracticeWorks Limited 2009