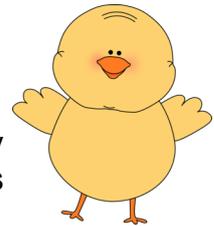


Western Elms Newsletter March 2018

HELLO SPRING...



We hope you did not have too much disruption during the cold and snowy entrance into spring! As of Spring we have various exciting projects starting....

BUILDING WORKS

Over the past 2 years our patient list size has grown by 2000 patients meaning our GPs have list sizes of 2500 patients. By building an extension and expanding the surgery we will gain a further 5 consulting rooms and training room. This means we will be able to employ more GPs so your registered GPs list size will decrease providing you with continuity of care. This is something we pride ourselves on at Western Elms as when registering at most surgeries they register you to the surgery and not to a GP. If we do not get the extension the GPs lists will continue to grow to who knows where...

We are doing this for everyone's benefit but please do bear with us as this means whilst the building works are happening we will only have half a building to operate in. We will only have 8 consulting rooms to use 5 will be used by GPs and 3 used by Nurses.



We have had to ask midwives and physiotherapists to see patients elsewhere as we need to facilitate on the day demands. To begin with we will have on the day appointments only whilst we start to understand our on the day demands, prebookable appointments will be Saturdays and Sundays only.

The patient car park will not be in use during this time as it will be used by heavy goods vehicles and cranes. We appreciate this limits parking options, we suggest to plan ahead and where possible use public transport.

Whilst we appreciate this may be frustrating, please remember our receptionists did not decide to do this. As a team we are all contributing and working together to provide the same level of care to our patients. If you have any concerns please ask to speak to a Duty Manager.

7 DAY WORKING



NHS England had said all surgeries will be required to be open 7 days a week as of 1st April 2019, due to the increase in demand they have brought this forward to 1st October 2018.

Therefore we are making use of this time to trial 7 day working and will be open Saturdays 08:30-16:30 and Sundays 10:00-14:00 for our prebookable appointments.

NEW CLINICAL SYSTEM

As of May we will be migrating from our current clinical system to EMIS. By doing so this means we can work collaboratively in 7 day working with our neighbouring surgeries in Reading West. This means you will be able to be seen at a different surgery who will also have access to your notes, with your consent.

If you have any questions or concerns about the changes please ask to speak to a Duty Manager who will be able to help you. Alternatively come along to our patient participation group meetings where your voice will be heard and you will be updated with the latest surgery news. Our next meeting is on... Wednesday 28th March 1.30pm at the surgery.

NEWSLETTERS

Do you keep up with our monthly newsletters? If you would like one electronically please email us on we.patientgroup@nhs.net we can then add you to our virtual group and you will be sent one each month to your email along with a set of the PPG meeting minutes.



Patient Safety Awareness Week



The United in Patient Safety campaign culminates each year with **Patient Safety Awareness Week**, designed to mark a dedicated time and a platform to increase awareness about patient safety among health professionals and the public. This year, patient safety week is March 11-17, 2018. Find out more at http://www.unitedforpatientsafety.org/patient_safety_awareness_week

Diabetes Prevention Week



Most people would be shocked to know that around 22,000 people with diabetes die early every year. Type 2 diabetes is a leading cause of preventable sight loss in people of working age and is a major contributor to kidney failure, heart attack, and stroke. There are currently 3.4 million people with Type 2 diabetes in England with around 200,000 new diagnoses every year. Type 2 diabetes is largely preventable through lifestyle changes.

As well as the human cost, Type 2 diabetes treatment accounts for just under nine per cent of the annual NHS budget. This is around £8.8 billion a year. There are currently five million people in England at high risk of developing Type 2 diabetes. If these trends persist, one in three people will be obese by 2034 and one in 10 will develop Type 2 diabetes.

There is strong international evidence which demonstrates how behavioural interventions, which support people to maintain a healthy weight and be more active, can significantly reduce the risk of developing the condition.



Please let us know if you change your mobile number so we can update our records and ensure you continue to receive appointment reminders!

WWW.WESTERNELMS.COM