

SPARKLE APPLIED TO CHILDREN'S TEETH IN CORNWALL

Over 420 pupils at Carclaze Community Primary School will continue improving their oral health after West Carclaze Garden Village enhanced their commitment to Brighter Smiles – Cornwall's oral health campaign.

Their generous £1,500 per annum contribution reflects the company's commitment to reversing the continuing trend of avoidable tooth extractions from children in Cornwall – a serious public health issue which sees around 20 children aged 5–9 admitted to hospital each week to have their teeth removed under general anaesthetic.

This support has enabled the Brighter Smiles team to set up toothbrushing clubs in the reception classes, apply fluoride varnish to the teeth of reception and year 1 pupils, and deliver oral health education to all the school's pupils with home education packs for all to encourage continued good practice at home with the whole family.

Simon Pollard, Head Teacher at Carclaze Community Primary School said 'We are extraordinarily grateful to West Carclaze Garden Village for continuing their generous support which will enable the Brighter Smiles team to have an even bigger positive impact on the oral health of our school community. The pupils really look forward to seeing the team and their dragon and engage so well with the fun oral health activities which fit so well with our school values of Care, Communicate, Persevere and Sparkle.'

In addition to Cornwall Council and West Carclaze Garden Village, Brighter Smiles is supported by local and national organisations. In previous years around 95 schools, nurseries and family hubs and 6,500 children have regularly engaged in the programme but with 280 schools in Cornwall there is still much more to do.



DCEs INVITED TO MAKE THEIR MARK IN THE DENTO-LEGAL FIELD

The 2023 Dental Law and Ethics Forum (DLEF) essay prize is now open for entries from young dentists and dental care professionals who want to make a mark in the dento-legal field. Any General Dental Council (GDC) registrant – including dentists, dental hygienists, dental therapists and dental nurses – who has been qualified for up to five years, as well as anyone in their final year of study, is eligible to enter one of three categories.

The essay topics are as follows:

1. For final year students: *'Is it possible to obtain consent from a patient who has dementia?'* This essay can be up to 800 words long
2. For first year registrants: *'Is it ever ethical to do something that is illegal?'* This essay can be up to 1,000 words
3. For registrants who have been qualified for between two and five years. *'What are the dento-legal issues to consider if a 17-year-old patient wants limited treatment orthodontics followed by composite bonding?'* This essay can be up to 1,500 words long.

The deadline for all the essays is 30 July and the prize for the best essay in each category is £250 and the opportunity to speak at the December meeting of the

forum. The DLEF is a group of influential people in the dental world who meet several times a year for talks given by experts in the world of dento-legal and medical ethics. Established 24 years ago, the forum provides valuable opportunities for debate and networking.

For the inaugural competition in 2022, there were two categories, one for first year registrants and the other for those qualified for between two and five years. Following the success of last year's competition, the DLEF has added an extra prize to include those in their final year of study.

Chris Morris, current President of the DLEF and dually qualified as a dentist and a lawyer, said: 'We had a very impressive set of entries last year. The 2023 essay topics are designed to encourage reflection on challenging contemporary topics which revolve around the theme of consent. They explore the kind of issues that the indemnity organisations deal with on a regular basis and will appeal to dental professionals at various stages of their career who are hoping to develop a portfolio career or who have an interest in the dento-legal world.'

Full details of the prizes and how to apply can be found on the DLEF website:

<https://www.dlef.org.uk/the-dlef-essay-prize-2023/>.

WARREN TOLLEY TO SPEAK AT DENTAL NURSES' FORUM



If you haven't already, register today for the British Dental Conference & Dentistry Show (BDCDS) 2023, being held on 12–13 May at the NEC Birmingham.

Among the highly esteemed speakers in the Dental Nurses' Forum, supported by the British Association of Dental Nurses (BADN), will be Warren Tolley – Deputy Chief Dental Officer Wales.

About his session, Warren commented: 'I will cover three main topics: ACORN/ Contract Reform and the dental nurse's role; national oral health improvement programmes, Designed to Smile and Gwên am Byth; and the Wales Community Dental Service.'

'The reform of primary care dentistry and the development of skill mixing is highly relevant to the modern dental nurse right now and the delivery of NHS dental care in the future. I hope to highlight the career opportunities that are available to dental nurses, including developing additional skills. The pandemic demonstrated the many transferable skills that a dental nurse has and individuals can make the most of these to drive their career.'

'Ultimately, I hope delegates will see the exciting opportunities that are available to them and how dental nurses can lead on specific areas within dentistry.'

The British Dental Conference & Dentistry Show 2023 will be held on Friday 12 and Saturday 13 May, NEC Birmingham. For more information visit <https://birmingham.dentistryshow.co.uk/>