



**SCHWARTZ, ONG & SHEARER**

**ORTHODONTICS**

**NEWSLETTER**

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**Hasn't the year flown!! It is hard to believe that the year is over. What have you been up-to in 2013? Just got braces or a plate? New house? Updated iPhone? This is a good time to remind you that to aid in maintaining an up-to-the-minute current database, could you please inform our receptionists of any change of address (residence and/or e-mail) or change in contact telephone number. This is particularly important for patients placed on our Recall Lists where a letter, text message or telephone call will remind you of your up-coming scheduled review visit. We also need valid details for reminding patients when they have missed appointments or when re-scheduling of an appointment is necessary. Just a reminder of our e-mail address:**

**[admin@designerorthodontics.com.au](mailto:admin@designerorthodontics.com.au)**

### **Another Friendly Reminder ...**

#### **Oh, Oh!! One of My Braces is Loose**

As patients would realize, we attempt to accommodate as many patients as possible in the before- and after-school appointment slots. Of course, preference is given to V.C.E. students for these highly sought after times, but we try to squeeze in as many adjustment appointments as possible.

However, we are still having regular problems with patients not informing our staff of broken appliances in-between scheduled appointments. So as a further reminder ... if you should happen to detach a bracket, snap a wire or have a loose band, please give our office a call as soon as possible. We have had several recent instances where a 2-3 months delay in treatment has occurred due to unwanted tooth movement.

Emergency appointments are ALWAYS scheduled between 10AM - 3PM so as to not interfere with the smooth running of our hectic before- and after-school appointments. Of course, we will always ensure that no patient has to 'put-up' with any pain so any detached bracket or loose band will be removed and any sharp wire will be trimmed.

However, patients who arrive for a Before- or After-School appointment with a breakage will have their repair re-scheduled to a 10AM - 3PM time slot.

### **School Camps**

Many patients wearing removable appliances (e.g. Headgears, retainers, Functional Appliances) often ask if it is OK not to take them on School Camps. They are concerned about the 'look' from friends and other kids when they wear their appliances. Many parents are also concerned that plates will be misplaced and lost while away from home. We do prefer that any 'plate' or Headgear be worn at least to bed during Camps. The "lost hours" can then be made-up in the following weeks.

In fact, most patients are surprised to see other school friends putting in their plates after dinner!!

### **Christmas Holiday Period**

Dr. Schwartz, Dr. Ong & Dr. Shearer and all of our nurses & administrative staff would like to take this opportunity to wish our patients and their families a very ...

### **Merry Christmas & Happy New Year for 2014**

Our offices will be closed from lunch-time on Friday, December 21 and will re-open on Monday, January 06 ... but our emergency telephone numbers mean that we are still only a "**PHONE CALL AWAY**" should you have any problems during this time.