



ASK News

Answering the questions you want to ASK



Education Through Exploration

ASK's Visiting Cat, Candy Cat By Tyler Hixson April 2008



COUNT THE KITTENS: Our visiting school cat recently gave birth to 7 kittens. There were 3 grey, one tiger striped, 2 buff, and 1 orange kitten. See if you can find them all.

We have a stray cat we call Candy Cat that comes by ASK almost every day. We met her one day when she started coming by occasionally. We put some food out and then that is how our school met Candy Cat. After we knew her, our backdoor neighbors took

her in. We call her Candy Cat, but we learned that her real name is Frosty.

She lives in our neighbor's garage with a box, some towels, and two heat lamps. Something exciting is that she had 7 babies in the box that is in the garage that she lives in. The students

of ASK gave Candy Cat and her babies a basket full of goodies.

Candy Cat is a very nice cat and we enjoy having her around. I asked one of our students what they like about Candy Cat. That student was Jordan Turnbull. He said that he liked her because she is nice, she does not bite, and she has a good personality.

Candy Cat is gray and light brown which is called calico. Her fur is very soft and she also has a good sense of humor.

At ASK, we let her come in sometimes, and when we do let her in, we love her and we give her some food and water.

Enough with the April showers. Bring on the May flowers!

Special Dates

- ✓ May 1st —May Day at Regency Assisted Living
- ✓ May 7—Whole school lunch
- ✓ May 15th— 5-7p.m. Biome presentations and potluck— everyone's invited.
- ✓ May 23—Last day of school—Yahoo!
- ✓ May 26th— Memorial Day
- ✓ May 28th —5-8 p.m. ASK K-1 Open House to highlight our new K-1 program



Friday Fun Day With ASK By Isaac Anderson

The ASK students have been going to Superstars studio on Fridays from 10:55-12:00 p.m. to get our energy out when the weather is bad.

There are a lot of things we do at Superstars. We play tag. It is really fun. We also climb the rope and see who can get up the fastest. There is also a trampoline with a big mat that we do flips onto.

All of the students really like it. Most of them like tag

the most .Max likes to climb the rope and play with the medicine balls.

This is our second year going there and we hope we can go back next year.



ABOVE: Jordan Turnbull is bursting through the obstacle course gates.

LEFT: Ellen Wines swings like a monkey on the rope at Superstars studio during Friday Fun Day.

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New Arrivals By Danielle Leopold

When you hear or think about new arrivals, you usually think of a baby that has been born, but we're talking about horses. The Leopold family has recently bought a couple of young horses. Their names are Lilly and Kotah, but we call him Kotah. The family has owned the horses from the middle of summer to winter. The family bought the horses to ride them when their two older horses, Sparrow and Cheyenne, get too old and can't be ridden.

One of the baby horses, Kotah, is 22 months old. He will turn 2 years old in April. He is a good horse. His color is called a Sorrel, which is a copper-brownish mix. He has a white upside down tear on his forehead. He also has white on his back legs and pink hooves. The Leopold's bought Kotah from Kris and Scott Howell of Iowa. When Kotah turns 2 years old, Danielle and her dad, Gary, will break Kotah. What does it mean to break a horse? It means to get a horse used to a saddle on its back so you can eventually ride the horse.

The other horse, Lilly, is 11 months old. She was born on Easter. How she got her name is from the Easter Lilly or the Tiger Lilly. Her color is called a Yellow Dun, which is basically yellow. She has a brown stripe called a dorsal stripe, running down her back to her tail. She also has stripes on her legs that are called leg barrings. She has a white spot on her forehead. She also has white on her back legs and back pink hooves. She is a very well behaved horse. She also came from Kris and Scott.

Lilly and Kotah are half-brother half-sister. They have the same dad, but different

moms. The dad is a Mustang, and the moms are both Quarter horses. That makes Lilly and Kotah half-mustang half-quarter horses. What Lilly and Kotah looked like in the past is pretty much the same, except smaller. They had smaller bodies, shorter manes and tails.

Have you ever been picked on? Kotah seems to pick on Lilly sometimes. Since Lilly has been pushed around for months, she is getting older, bigger.... And tougher, so she's starting to push Kotah around! If he messes with her, Kotah sometimes gets a hoof sandwich. But, he usually doesn't mess with her.



Lilly is enjoying the weather as she stares into our back pasture.



Kotah is having a good time standing in the puddles and snow. He might just drink out of the puddles.

Dan the Music Man By Ellen Wines

ASK Learning Center has had a new teacher named Dan Trik come teach music class at their school on Tuesdays from 2:00-2:30.

In music class we play percussion instruments. We play bells, bongos, zumbra and much more. We have also been working on rhythms. Dan gives us a sheet with rhythms and then we play them.

We just finished writing a song. It's called The Zorse That Saved the Day. It is very good! It's about a zorse, zedonk and a liger. I won't tell you all of it, but someone gets

eaten.

Dan is 36 years old. He is married to a woman named Ellen. He has two children named Quin and Charlie. Dan started playing music when he was 9.

Music class is something all the students enjoy and we love having Dan as our teacher.



LEFT: Dan the Music Man is rocking out with some of the students at ASK.



New Pets 2

By Danielle Leopold

In recent months, ASK has received some more pets. In the article "New Pets", I was wrong to say we might not be getting any more pets. We have had a couple of pets pass away. Sadly, Chica and Steve passed away. Chica passed away from age, and Steve passed away from molting. But, we have more pets so we won't get lonely.

When Chica passed away, Betsy and Darcy Hosier went to a new pet store called Pet Land, and bought a smaller, and younger parakeet. The parakeet is a boy, and his name is CC, which stands for Chubby Cheekers, because he is short and fat. His color is dark blue with a gray head and his back has dark gray and white stripes. His tail has shiny teal on it. His wing feathers are trimmed, so he can't fly yet.

We have also received a few ferrets. There are two boys, and one girl. They are all fixed. The two boys' names are Stinky and Bubba. The girl's name is Sophie. Stinky is white with black eyes and a gray tail and a gray spot on his back. He is three years old, and he is deaf. Bubba is albino, and he is

two years old. Sophie is brown with a brown mask, and she is five years old. The ferrets came from Tanya's friends, Jeremy and Aryn Fross. Since three ferrets is a lot of care, the Leopold family has adopted Stinky. Sophie and Bubba don't miss Stinky, because they don't remember each other.

Jeremy Fross also gave us two Golden Crested geckos. Their names are Quantum and Funny Feet, and they are both boys. Funny Feet is bigger than Quantum.

All the new and old pets behave well. Now, I am not sure if we will get more ferrets, birds, geckos, or any other pets.



CC is resting on top of his cage after a climbing adventure.



Bubba (left) and Sophie (right), are enjoying a delicious treat together.



Quantum is taking a walk on the futon.



Funny Feet is joining Quantum on his walk on the futon.

Seeing History Through Our House's Eyes Part 3

By Emma Wines

Once again it is time for me to return with "Seeing History Through Our House's Eyes Part 3." During school, we have been learning more about our house's history. I will share what I have learned.

The next type of building the house became was a church. Iowa District West, The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod was the name of the church. They owned it from May of 1992 to August of 1996, which is about 4 years. It was a Lutheran church. The

original pastor was Pastor Earl Pierce. Then in 1994, there was a different pastor, he was Pastor Mike Fitzgerald. The room that is now our library was the nursery. There were French doors that could be closed if babies or kids cried or were noisy.

Next, the house was a private home, and it was owned by Dennis and Denise Loll. The Lolls' owned the house for 10 years. Dennis worked out of the house for 5 of the years they

lived there. The rooms on the main floor, that are now used for areas to do work, originally were carpeted, then the Lolls' refinished the original wood flooring. They also gutted the kitchen.

The house has been many things. Now it is a K-8 private school. While I have done this very long 3-part article, I have learned a lot, too much to write in one paragraph. Now it is officially time for me to say,

The End.

Signs of Spring By Gunnar Alexander, Max Hosier, and Sean Hixson

The Cool Chicks

Chickens are hatching. Every one at ASK helps in the process. It is happening down stairs. It happened this Monday April 14th.

We put the eggs in on March 23rd. It took them 21 days to hatch. We put 18 eggs in but we only have 10 chickens.

The temperature has to stay at 100 degrees. I think hatching chickens is a lot of fun.



This is Hawkeye and Furball. Two of our ten chicks.

The Fun Park

For recess the younger kids at ASK go to the park by the library. We play on the equipment and in the train.

We play tag and have fun. We go in the train and run and climb.

I am happy that the weather is nice. So we can go to the park.



ABOVE: These are some of the ASK students at the park. They are having fun playing on the equipment.

Our Garden

The students at ASK Learning Center planted our spring garden in the backyard. We did it on April 16, 2008.

We planted beets, spinach, table onions, radishes, cooking onions, carrots, lettuce, marigolds, and nasturtiums. We were planting because it was sunny and after that day it rained so then the garden starts to grow.

I think gardening is fun and I think everybody else likes it too.



RIGHT: Karen, Danielle, and Emma are planting seeds in our spring garden.

The Article About Articles By Jordan Turnbull

The ASK students are the ones who write the ASK News. When we write the news, we start with brainstorming then we do a rough draft. Next, we type the articles on the computer. After we are done with it, we edit it and last but not least we send it to you.

We write all the articles here at the school. The reason why we do this is so other people can get info and know what we do here at ASK

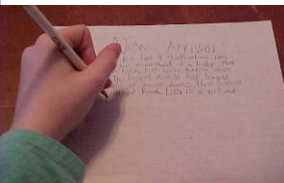
Learning Center.

When we brainstorm, we just throw some ideas up on the board. Then, each student picks one out and starts to write about it.

Every article we write has to have an opening paragraph. In that opening paragraph, we have to write the who, what, where, and the why.

After we type the opening paragraph, we type the main idea of the article. When we are done with the article, we print it out and have some of our classmates edit it, then we self-edit it.

After we do all that, we print it out then it comes to you. If you got all that done, then you have yourself an article.



She is starting her article's opening paragraph.



LEFT: This is Tyler Hixson. He is editing his article and going through the stuff he missed.



RIGHT: This is Danielle Leopold. She is just finishing up her article and printing it out.

Teacher's Note: I would like to remind our readers that this is a student written and edited newspaper. Our purpose is to give the students a meaningful project in which to practice their writing and editing skills. As teachers, we are able to use this format to introduce new skills and monitor their growth. There is not a better, more entertaining way to view a writer's evolution than to look back through three years of articles. There are five first-time reporters in this issue. We hope you enjoy watching their writings grow over the years. —Tanya