"Does it matter if they're capitals or not?"

In Python:

"a" == "A" evaluates to False

Does your understanding of ASCII codes explain why?

Yes, ASCII does explain why...

- "a" = ASCII 097
- "A" = ASCII 065

In Python comparison of characters and strings is done using ASCII codes, so: 097 != 065

How does aChar.lower() work?

- If aChar is an upper case letter it has an ASCII code of between 65 and 90
- Lower case letters have ASCII codes of 97 to 122
- that's a gap of 32

So aChar.lower() simply adds 32 to the character code to convert "A" to "a"

How does aChar.upper() work?

The gap is 32 between "A" and "a", but this time "A" is 32 less

So aChar.upper() takes 32 away to convert
"a" to "A"

It's all done with numbers...