Dear Parents,
The poem you are about to read was written by a former student. I hope you enjoy it!

“The Student”

It is very powerful and deep to know
That the students we teach, would one day, on us grow.
    They come to us in anger and pride
    Only to see, later on, someone great inside.
    They act all tough and rough outside,
But there is a gentleness they possess that they try to hide.
    But what’s even more powerful and deeper to know
    Is who WE become… and how WE grow.
All the time they spent talking and walking with us
    Ended up turning, churning, and changing US.
    It’s like the more these boys we get to know,
    The deeper our roots and higher our branches will grow,
    Being spread out all over the place,
    Is a thing of glory… a picture of God’s Mighty Grace.
The harder and tougher ones are who we spent the most on
And it hits you the hardest, makes you cry, when they’re gone.
    There will never be another “so and so”.
    They’re off somewhere…we’ll never know.
    I forever will thank the boys I used to know
    For it is because of them, who have helped me grow.

- s.v.

FINANCIAL REMINDER

Beginning January 1, 2018, we (Agapé Finance Office) will be charging a 3.5% surcharge on ALL credit card transactions.
October 2017
Black Walnut Festival Parade
The Agape Colt Class was given the opportunity to have a part in the parade this year, and they loved every moment of it!

“Down at the Fishin’ Hole”
Beautiful days at Agape call for some fishing at one or both of the ponds here on the property.

More photos are online!
AgapeBoardingSchool.org
Happy Thanksgiving, Parents!

I am so glad that our nation sets aside a day to remind us to be thankful for all the things that we have. We have so much for which to be thankful. Yes, we have our hard days, and at times we are given some bad news; nonetheless, we certainly have an immeasurable amount of wonderful blessings for which it would behoove us to express our gratitude.

When I consider our horse program and how much we have grown, I am overwhelmed with gratitude and humility as I cannot help but recognize what the Lord has done. Six years ago I came to Agapé Boarding School to work on staff and begin a horse/ranch program for the boys. We had very few horses and only some meager plans and ideas with which to start. I remember telling the Lord that I did not want the program to be a financial burden to the school, and asking Him to provide the right horses for our boys to ride and train. Now, six years later, we have nearly one hundred head of high quality, well-bred, fine-dispositioned horses. In the midst of all that growth, I would venture to say that we have only had to purchase about a half a dozen of those horses. The rest of our horses were donated to us by very generous and reputable ranches and individuals. I know that the Lord has done the work in putting this program together because I could not have chosen such horses that would work so well with beginner riders and trainers. The sole purpose for us raising these horses is to help young men overcome fears and failures, and to use them as a means to teach biblical principles and life lessons. I am so thankful for the horses that the Lord has given to Agape.

I also am very grateful to you parents as you have trusted us with your precious sons. Thank you for supporting the horse/ranch program. Yes, it can be a little dangerous at times; it can be disheartening at times; and it can be a little overwhelming at times. Still, it has always proven to encourage, develop, and shape good character, responsibility, and respect. Thank you for allowing your son to have an opportunity to work with the ranch animals.

Speaking of working with the ranch animals, we have just weaned our baby colts from their mothers, and we are just beginning to catch them and break them to the halter. During this time, the young colts will learn to bond with the students and look to them for guidance. The boys will have to earn the trust and confidence of the young horses. This is a very important time in the life of a horse as it is its first interaction and dealings with people. I am very excited to watch the lessons that will be learned by both the boys and the colts.

Thank you, again, from all of us on the ranch for allowing us to have a small part in the education and shaping of your son.

With a shared love for your boys,
Riley Olson
October 2017

FOOTBALL CAMP

More photos are online!
AgapeBoardingSchool.org
Recently here at Agapé, we have been emphasizing the A.C.T. Right philosophy. One of the hardest struggles for young men upon arriving at Agapé is their “selfish entitlement” spirit. With today’s humanistic society and the prevalent curse of our own sin nature, young men are faced with very simple yet quarrelsome circumstances.

Young men ask me quite often, “How can I leave Agapé and continue doing what is right?” One of the primary struggles that parents have at home is the simple fact that their son no longer views himself accountable to his parents’ authority. Facing the loss of accountability, the parents now struggle to correct their child. Which then leads to them not being able to correct the wrong in their child. One cannot correct somebody who has become stiff-necked and does not see themselves accountable. We cannot even begin the training of a young man if we cannot correct the wrong. It starts to become a vicious cycle, a pattern for insanity.

The Bible is very clear in regard to being “accountable” in Matthew 12:36, “…that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgement.” Our ultimate authority must be, and is, the infallible, inerrant, preserved, and inspired Word of God. Every word that comes from our mouth and ultimately from our heart will be judged. How much more our own actions? What an amazing thought!

There is a very simple formula for a young man to leave Agapé and continue in the right path:

A - Accountability
C - Correction
T - Training

II Timothy 3:16 completes this A.C.T. Right formula: “All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine (that which is taught, doctrine, foundation), for reproof (a proof that by which a thing is proved or tested, evidence), for correction (a straightening up again, restoration to an upright or right state), for instruction in righteousness (the whole training and education of children, instruction which aims at increasing virtue).”

In conclusion, a student at Agapé is accountable to all authority while at Agapé. He must learn why he is having a hard time accepting correction (there are many factors why a young man is resistant to correction, whether it be pride, bitterness, anger, hurt, etc.), as a result of receiving correction, he then can be molded and trained into a young man who will be “perfect (mature or complete), throughly furnish unto all good works.” (II Timothy 3:17)

Our goal at Agapé is not to “replace the home”, but rather reinforce the home. When your young man leaves Agapé, you are still ultimately his authority. Let’s work together for this greater cause and bring honor and glory to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

THANK YOU!

Several weeks ago we informed our Agapé family of Bro. Clemensen’s desire to purchase new mattresses for the students. With the donations of parents and others, we are pleased to announce that the total amount has been raised and the mattresses have been purchased!

Thank you to all who had a part in making this possible!

Be sure to log onto Facebook and like our page: “Agape Boarding School”

UPCOMING EVENTS
Christmas Day: December 25
Boxing Camp: January 15 - 19
CHRISTMAS PRESENT LIST

*The following are suggested items to buy students.

1. Basketball, soccer, football, etc.
2. Binders
3. Board Games *please be sensitive to content. Keep them G rated*
4. Checkers
5. Chess
6. Color books, word search, Sudoku, etc.
7. Coloring pencils - NO red or green pencils; NO sharpeners
8. Dress shoes *able to be polished*
9. Gloves
10. Mechanical pencils or pens
11. Models *glue and paint must be latex based. Water clean-up*
12. Notepad
13. Pajama pants
14. Paper
15. Personal Bibles – King James Bibles ONLY
16. Photo albums
17. Ping pong paddles and balls
18. Q-sticks
19. Remote control cars helicopters, etc.
20. Rubik Cube or puzzle games
21. School supplies - NO red or green colors; NO pencil sharpeners
22. Shorts
23. Sketch books, drawing paper
24. Sneakers
25. Socks (NO ankle socks)
26. Sport Team shirts or Military *must be professional or major college*
27. Sweat pants
28. Tech decks
29. Ties *burgundy must be the main color*
30. Underwear
31. Uno, Phase 10, etc. - NO playing cards i.e. poker
32. White dress shirt
33. Wrestling Shoes
34. X-box 360 games – sports games ONLY
   *must be approved and donated to the school*
35. Yoyo’s
36. NO HOODIES

*There is a FIVE gift limit for each student.
That means FIVE combined from all of the family members.

*Please wrap your gifts! They will not be opened.

*For any questions regarding gifts, please feel free to call the main office.

GIVE A GIFT

Every year we have several students that do not receive gifts.
If you would like to donate, all you have to do is send extra gifts (wrapped of course) along with your son’s gifts and label them “BOY”.

*If you have any questions, please feel free to call the main office.

CHRISTMAS VISITING TIMES

Sunday, December 24th
7:30am to end of the evening church service.
Christmas Day, December 25th
7:30am to the end of the chapel service.

*Christmas is a free visit.

Gift Opening
at 10:00am
Christmas Dinner
at 2:00pm