



## December eNewsletter

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"Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up." -1 Thessalonians 5:11

### Upcoming Dates

December 8: Process November reports (K-8)  
January: Fall Semester Payments (9-12)  
January 10: Process December reports (K-8)  
February 8: Process January reports (K-8)  
March 8: Process February reports (K-8)  
April 8: Process March reports (K-8)

### Favorite Thanksgiving Entree Results

Mashed Potatoes - 31.6%  
Turkey/Vege Turkey - 26.3%  
Stuffing - 15.8%  
Green Bean/Sweet Potato Casserole - 13.2%  
Pumpkin Pie - 13.2%

### K-8 October Stats

Schools: 127  
Students: 909  
Visit Hours: 3,175  
Total Scholarship: \$94,744.29



# Peppermint Bark Recipe



12 oz semisweet chocolate chips  
16 oz white chocolate chips  
1/2 tsp peppermint extract  
3/4 cup crushed candy canes



Place the semisweet chocolate chips in a bowl and microwave for 30 second increments until melted. Stir until smooth. Spread chocolate into 9x13 rectangle on parchment paper. Place in fridge for 15 min. Place white chocolate chips in a bowl and microwave for 30 sec increments until melted. Add peppermint extract and stir until smooth. Spread the white chocolate over the semisweet chocolate layer. Top with candy canes. Let harden in the fridge for 20 min.



## Coordinator Spotlight

Hello, Friends! My name is Joelle (Perry) Ashley. I'm a former high school English teacher, who loves working with young people and watching them grow through Andrews Academy's PFE program.

Backing up a "few" years though, AA is my alma mater, and I graduated from Andrews University ('94) with English, behavioral science and a secondary teaching certification. I taught at Dakota Adventist Academy ('94-'97), Highland View Academy ('97-'98... got married), and Fletcher Academy ('98-'99). Then I took a break from boarding academies to work for an online learning company (d'Vinci Interactive) to help design curriculum content for the National Institutes of Health continuing ed. modules and fun, educational games for the National Park Service Web Ranger sites. Then came a set of twins into our lives in 2002, and those little pea pods became the center of my world for about a decade,

as I “Mommed” and homeschooled. When they were about to be freshmen at Andrews Academy, the principal approached me to coordinate some program called the ASSIST Program, which I swear to you stood for: Academy Student Service Initiative—Stipend for Tuition Program. Ha! Now, we know it as Partnering for Eternity 9-12, and that was almost six years ago. When I learned the basics of the program: students win, parents win, older adults win, community wins, Andrews Academy wins—I thought (and still think), *This program is the best philanthropic endeavor I’ve ever encountered!* I knew organizing and working with young people was in my wheelhouse, plus I loved the idea of being available to my kids for their high school years.

At that time, Southern Adventist University was managing all participating schools and Andrews Academy utilized social work graduate students from Andrews University to supervise 12 students, all going to the same low income apartment complex. Since I had more time to dedicate to the program, and I knew so many older adults from growing up here, I decided to begin pairing up young people with senior citizens all throughout the community. For a couple years, I coordinated everything by myself and sort of chuckled at all the roles we were supposed to have: grant admin, mentor liaison, student supervisor, and I don’t know what else. But then we went from 12 students to 15 to 19 and now we’re at 26, and I tell you what: there’s no chuckling now—Ha! I adore my assistant, Regina Martins, and can’t imagine AA PFE without her. Her roles are idea bouncer-offer, reflection feedback giver, non-compliant student alarm sounder, assistant student/parent/mentor interviewer, orientation table decorator, sympathy card buyer, etc.

Regina is the BEST!

My peeps have been gone from the Academy for a couple years now, and I’m still coordinating PFE. I’m in deeper than ever, actually. Involving our students in fundraising is a new thing in the last couple years, and I love that. It makes so much sense that they not only give back to the community by helping their mentor, but

also give back to our Program by perpetuating its solvency. This is something I have time for because—that's right—Regina is the BEST! We're currently working on creating an endowment that will grow to pay for our 30% obligation to the students' scholarship. Students and mentors are helping with this project with a letter-writing campaign this semester.

Why do I stay? Cause I LOVE it, people! I love the students, the mentors; I love seeing their friendships grow. I love mentoring kids who struggle to write their reflections or keep a conversation going with their older adult. I love having kids stop by my office to say, "Hi," ask a question, use one of the Physical Therapy massage tools

I have, or borrow a Calvin and Hobbes book from me for their study hall. I love stopping by mentors' homes and calling them to hear the latest about their spouse in the hospital or their visit with their grandkids or hear about their experience on the most recent mission trip to Montana. Oh and one of my favorite things is watching the progress of projects that mentors take on with their students: chicken coops, sunroom roofing, wood splitting for winter, kitchen demos and renos, quilts, scarf crocheting, major sweet potato harvesting, moving to a new house, building a new house, etc. Then there's the "little" things like poetry reading, scrabble playing, walking, eating snacks, sharing garden harvests or baked goods. What's not to love about this program?

Whatever your role is, I hope you love it, too!

# Activity Ideas

S	T	H	G	I	L	G	N	A	H	S	M	H	H
D	E	N	E	I	A	R	I	H	A	E	P	T	O
I	N	R	U	H	S	N	E	N	E	S	E	A	L
Y	M	S	R	H	D	I	C	A	C	G	K	E	I
O	A	E	H	H	R	C	A	M	M	S	O	R	D
R	K	C	R	S	A	E	R	W	O	R	A	W	A
N	E	R	G	L	C	S	G	O	V	N	R	A	Y
A	C	E	N	E	Y	K	N	N	I	O	A	E	B
M	A	T	I	D	A	A	I	S	E	G	K	K	I
E	N	S	L	D	D	T	P	A	N	V	O	A	N
N	D	A	O	I	I	I	P	E	I	O	A	M	G
T	L	N	R	N	L	N	A	K	G	B	E	C	O
S	E	T	A	G	O	G	R	A	H	Y	R	G	S
C	S	A	C	E	H	N	W	M	T	I	K	A	N

SCAVENGER HUNT  
SECRET SANTA  
HANG LIGHTS  
HOLIDAY BINGO  
MOVIE NIGHT  
MAKE CANDLES  
DIY ORNAMENTS  
WRAPPING RACE  
MAKE A SNOWMAN  
CAROLING  
SLEDDING  
MAKE A WREATH  
KARAOKE  
ICE SKATING  
HOLIDAY CARDS

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/3028368/>

## Reminders

- Virtual visits are discontinued (includes letter writing, text, Zoom, etc.)
- Send us your stories and pictures!

SFFC Foundation | [PFE Website](#) | [pfe@sffcfoundation.org](mailto:pfe@sffcfoundation.org)



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