

Prudence Island School

Issue 15 January 2013

The Prudence Wave

Prudence Early Settlers By Meg, PISF 11th grader

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PIHPS Board Members Support Young Historians

In honor of Portsmouth's 350th anniversary celebration in 2013, we will be writing a monthly story in honor of our own Prudence Island history. In our American History studies we tie Rhode Island and Prudence Island historical events into what was happening in America during each time period.

From the very beginning, Prudence was not a very populated place. Even though Roger Williams owned half the Island and liked it very much, he never got to visit very often since it was so far from where he lived. The Indians wanted him to move down and continue preaching, but he was unable to do so, being the governor of Rhode Island was a very busy job it seemed. Williams did visit whenever he could though. He kept a herd of pigs and goats on the Island and had a little house built for a keeper to watch said creatures. The very first keeper and first permanent resident of Prudence was Joshua Winsor. He was employed in 1638. This idea- that Williams and Winthrop could have a stock farm on Prudence to feed the surrounding Colonies- ended in failure due to their tricksy employee. It was reported that the Narragansett Indians had stolen 200 of the sheep, but with further investigation it turned out that Winsor had sold the sheep to shipmasters and kept the money for himself. Needless to say, Winsor was fired from his position, and the idea of a stock farm was given up.

After owning his half of the island for only two years, Williams sold his share to a John Throckmorton of Providence in April of 1639. Throckmorton had been excommunicated from Salem at around the same time that Williams had been, for many of the same offenses. He and his wife were the first white family to live on Prudence and stayed there for many years. It was said they lived in the house previously owned by the disreputable Winsor. In 1642 the very first Pearce to live on Prudence, Richard, moved down with his wife Susanna. They lived more or less alone there, with only the Narragansett Indians as neighbors. They went to Portsmouth periodically for supplies, and to give birth to their son, Richard Jr. in 1643. But eventually they moved to Portsmouth and appeared in the town records in 1651.

After a series of acts and orders made in May of 1647, Prudence was made a part of Portsmouth Township, and has been ever since.



On Friday the 14th the Prudence Island School kids went on an all-school field trip to the most amazing Christmas tree farm in Westport, RI called the Pine Crest Tree Farm. While we were there we learned all about different types of Christmas trees and the proper ways to help them grow to their full potential. It turns out that there's a lot more than just throwing them in the ground and waiting for it to grow. You also need to keep it maintained by trimming it and making sure that the place you plant your tree in has the type of soil and conditions it'll take for your tree to thrive.

After learning about the Christmas trees at the farm we got to pick out the trees that we were going to deliver later that day to support our Washington D.C. trip that will take place this spring. At one point we even got to ride in golf cart!

So after we were all rounded up and all the trees were in order we helped package them and take the steps to get them ready for delivery to customers. After cutting it down the first thing you do is take the tree and stand it up in a contraption called a Shakee. Then you step on a pedal and the tree shakes off all its dead needles and any other leaves and twigs it picked up in the field. Next you put the tree in a baler that has netting on the end to incase the tree.

When we had loaded all the trees into the truck we headed to Emily and Paul's house (A.K.A. the owners of the tree farm) to have an elegantly planned and might I add super tasty lunch! I won't go into detail about our delicious meal but let it be known that if I did your mouth would water. After our fancy lunch Emily gifted us with some new stickers and a Christmas tree ornament for each of us.

When our eventful trip had come to an end we had to head back home to make the deliveries and spread bundles of Christmas cheer.





Christmas Tree Delivery Service

Christmas Tree Cutting with Paul



By Georgie age 12 from Thame, England

"Long ago we could sail the seas,

but now the mighty beast blocks your way."

"No more bridges either

For he zooms up from the bottom

Splashes out and snatches you in his jaws"

"Now the only way to France is fly

No more scenic Ferry rides

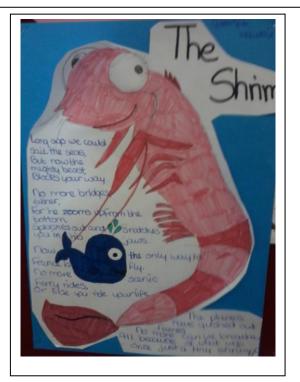
Or else you risk your life"

"The planes have gushed out fumes

No more can we breathe

All because of what was once a just a tiny Shrimp"

Georgie is Judy Little's grand-daughter and spends summers here. The PISF students have chosen her to be the Wave's British correspondent.



January Events on PI

New Year's Day Activities

First Day Walk - 11:00 (meet at the Farm)

Polar Plunge - 12:00 noon at Sand Point Beach

Pot Luck Lunch - 1:00 Farnham Farm. Seats are limited so please make reservations. Contact Rose Giarusso for tickets. <u>egro5@msn.com</u> or 683-2940

Movie Night- Saturday January 5 @ 7pm. At Farnham Farm

Dinning Around the World (Cayman Islands)- Saturday January 19 @ 6pm. At Farnham Farm.

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Flying Santa By Memphis, Shelby, Aribella and Raya

On Sunday December 9th Santa came in a helicopter to the island. It was dark, it was black. We went to the light house to go see Santa. There were lots of kids and grow ups there just to see Santa. We got to stand next to him and we got our picture taken and he gave us candy canes. For the group shot we yelled out Rudolph and we got to stand in front of the helicopter. We stood at the top of the hill and waved goodbye to Santa. There were also firemen in their uniforms that were there to help if there were any issues.

Memphis- Santa has elves. He gave us candy canes. I asked for tools. He came on a sled, he lives a long ways away.

Shelby- I asked him for a tamagotchi. A tamagotchi is a little video game and a little stuffed animal that pops out at the top when it grows up

Aribella- Flying Santa came in and it was great. He flew by 2 times and then landed. He landed right at the end of the hill at the old inn.

Raya- It was really fun. It was so nice that he could actually come to the island. I gave him my wish list and a present that was a key chain.

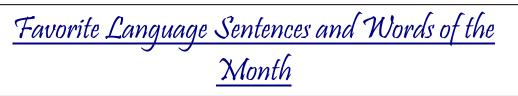


Aribella's Dinosaur 'Facts'

By Aribella, PISF kindergartener

humongous!! He had gigantic teeth, some of them in the front of his mouth that stuck out to keep his prey from slipping out. His teeth were as big as bananas.

The Tyrannosaurus was



This year our students are each studying a foreign language. Each month the students will be sharing some of their favorite expressions that they have learned in their language classes.

Due to the fact that that most of the school had the flu this month, followed by Christmas vacation the kids had no time to work on their language sentences of the month. It is a wonder that the paper was finished at all.



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Where is this??



We will give you the answer in the February edition of The Prudence Wave!

Last month's 'Where is This?':

This was not a picture of the schoolhouse, but one of the top of our pigeon coup. It was built as a replica of our beloved schoolhouse.

The Prudence Wave

PISF Wish List

- Computer Paper
- Poster boards
- Scotch tape
- A new printer
- Cozy Rug
- Sewing needles
- Electric Hand Mixer
- Chemistry Glass Ware (Graduated cylinders, Beakers, Erlenmeyer Flasks...)

• <u>**VOLUNTEER TO CLEAN THE</u> <u>SCHOOL **</u>

(The kids do an amazing job with all of their chores, but we need an adult to deep clean once a week.)

<u>Ingrid Michaelson Concert Review</u> By Raya, PISF 2nd grader

I went to an Ingrid Michaelson show and I had so much fun. I loved the show. The show was inside the Edward Theater at URI. I went with my mom, dad, Marina, Meg, and Julianna. We waited outside and it was very cold. We sat in the front row which was really, really good seats. I was wearing my favorite dress that Shelby gave me which made it so special.

Ingrid and her three friends sang and played musical instruments. Ingrid played piano and ukulele and her friend's played the guitar. They played folk music. The music was fantastic and we got to sing along. It was definitely really good music. She played a really great song called "Be Ok."

Ingrid talked to me because she heard me laugh and she asked "is there a kid in here?" That's when she came over and talked to me. She guessed my age and it was right. Ingrid is scared of flies because a fly was flying around while she was playing the piano it landed on her mic and she screamed.

When we were driving home in the car I could barely keep my eyes open. They felt like rocks. I had so much fun that night and it was best night ever. I will be going to many more concerts.





<u>Under the Sea with Shelby</u> By Shelby, PISF 3rd grader

This month's article is about salmon. I picked salmon because I heard that they can live in both fresh water and salt water. Salmon are anadromous. This means they are born in fresh water rivers. and when they are three years old, they go downstream into the ocean. Salmon go back to their homes in fresh water rivers to where they were born to lay their eggs. After they lay their eggs, they usually die, but some species of salmon go back to the ocean. There are few salmon because people are making dams in the rivers, so now they can't go home and lay their eggs. Salmon make a nest with their tail by patting it on the bottom of the stream and making a hole in the gravel. Then they lay eggs in the hole. Then the male fertilizes them. The female can lay thousands of eggs. The salmon fights against waterfalls, currents, dams and predators. They swim in the opposite direction of the current. At 5 years old, salmon weigh about 20 pounds. The largest species of salmon is the Chinook. The most common types of salmon are the Pink and Chum. Salmon are bony fish, which means that they are not made of cartilages, but bone. I think salmon are very interesting, cool and fascinating because they can live in fresh water and salt water.



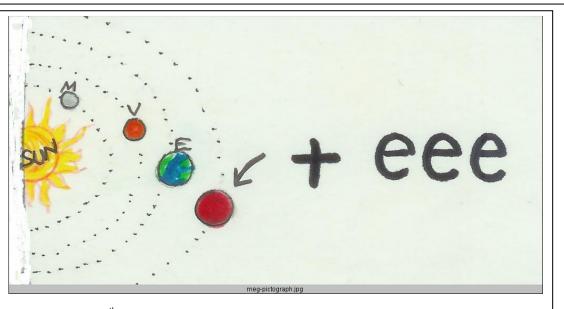
These are the different stages of a salmon.

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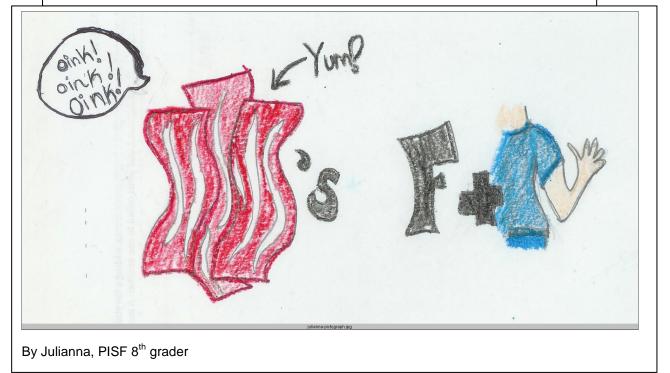
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Prudence Picto-Puzzles

Use the pictures to figure out favorite Prudence Island locations



By Meg, PISF 11th grader



November Pictopuzzle Answer: Sand Point



By Marina, PISF 10th grader

Everybody knows Dave Buffum,but do you really know Dave? Well I'm going to tell you what I learned. He was born on April 24 and grew up in Bloomfield, Connecticut. He attended Wintonbury Elementary for grades 1-6 and attended the local schools for middle and high school. Dave's first job was his favorite job. He worked on his neighbor's farm, which later turned into the neighborhood pool.

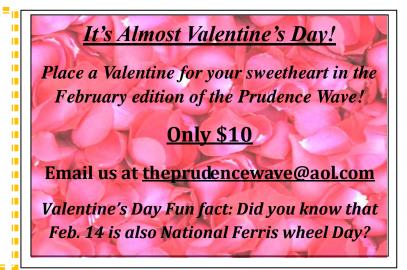


It was open to the entire neighborhood as long as they took care of it. Dave has been coming to the island since he was a child. His family used to live here for the summers. But he has been living here full time for 15 years. His favorite spot on Prudence depends on his mood, some days it's Pine Hill and other days it's Sandy Beach. Some of his hobbies are swimming, scuba diving, and he used to be an avid sailor. Now I know what you're all thinking, has Dave ever once played bingo or does he just go to hangout? Well he has in fact played bingo once, maybe twice. But he mostly goes to just watch. Dave has some famous art hanging up in his house. Of course Meg and I drew it, that's what makes it famous!! Well if you didn't already know, Dave is an awesome guy!!

Please join us in thanking STAPLES of Fall River

 for printing 50 black and white copies of the Prudence Wave!!

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Journal Entries of the Month

By Shelby, PISF 3rd grader

If I had \$1,000,000 I would donate it to Samaritan's Purse and hospitals. I would also give some to the school so we can go to D.C.

By Meg, PISF 11th grader

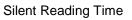
The footprints appeared out of nowhere, trekking through the freshly fallen snow and disappearing into the forest. They created an uproar among nosey islanders who couldn't figure out what was making such strange tracks. Gossip seeded on the ferry among the commuters and rumors spread as to what it was making such enormous footprints. One islander thought that a coyote had grown to an enormous size, living off of Pat Rossi's plump chickens. Another person suggested an African elephant had swum across the ocean to the island. Rumors spread that the Loch Ness Monster had evolved, Big Foot relocated to P.I. and that the Abominable Snowman was migrating to warmer climates. Hunters, biologists and myth busters flocked to PI and the search began. The group followed the trail of foot prints and came at last to a clearing. There a tiny little blond girl stood looking at the cardinals in the trees. "What do you want?" Aribella asked, turning to look at the crowd of people. Everyone looked at her feet, where dino shoes fit onto her itty bitty feet. Everyone left disappointed and Aribella continued on her merry bird watching.



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Scenes from Our Classroom







Calculating density



Holiday Crafts



Pine tree identification at Pine Crest Tree Farm





Aribella turned 6!!



Lab to determine unknown metal ion based on unique characteristic color when burned



Thanks to Herb Fuller for donating this amazing antique train.



Holiday decorating



At Pine Crest Tree Farm



Average Atomic Mass Lab



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