

"Ask and you will receive. And your joy will be the fullest joy."

John 16:24

"Yo nathilnydja nhuma gan nuni banyu nany' thuna God-  
Wanarnha Bapany nula nhaku narakalanuwurnnydja  
yakukurr. Ma', nany' thurra walal nanya, marr nheny dhu  
marraman bala yan, marr nanyu dhu nanyanyu  
dhananyhirra nany-djulythinyaraynha."

Djon 16:24



# Gäwa news

February 2011

It is always great to begin the New Year with lots of children coming to school every day. We are delighted that so many people are interested in our remote Christian school and we always enjoy sharing our insights and joys with you. We encourage you to share our monthly newsletter among family and friends. Many thanks for your ongoing love and support.

Blessings, Lara

## Mayawa News



First term back at school and Mayawa class has definitely been busy. Cooking up a storm with our very own gingerbread men, learning our alphabet, making our own 'Lenny Litterbugs' and playing the xylophone in our music lessons. And this is just a snippet of what's been happening!

Mayawa students- 'We are Sitting'

This year in our Language lessons, Mayawa class along with the help of Basma have been reading and then reproducing their very own books in Yolnu Matha. We have already written the words and taken the pictures for our first book 'Nhina ga napurr' (*We are Sitting*), and were definitely excited to see the results. Watch this space for the next generation of little writers to emerge!!



We welcome three new students into our Transition class this year- Hannah, Lachie and Katinka

Jess Whitby

Joanne and Mamana have been enthusiastic new cooks at Gäwa this year and we are delighted to welcome them into the kitchen. They are eager to learn new recipes, new ideas and ensure that the students are provided with nutritional and healthy morning teas and lunches every day. Items on the menu have included spaghetti bolognaise, chicken curries, BBQ chicken, vegetable stir fries and lamb stews. The children were excited to have homemade pizzas as a special treat last Friday.

New Cooks



Joanne & Mamana in the 'Gäwa Pizzeria'

Taking inspiration from the children's study of China, the students have been creating some beautiful artwork while learning about another culture. In both the Mayawa and Damala classes, we have studied Chinese Pictograph Calligraphy. The children made their own ink from charcoal and after practicing traditional symbols, created their own 'yolngu style' icons. The Mayawa class transferred their designs onto pieces of turtle shell while the Damala class worked together on a group art piece.

Salome Moes

Art Class with Sal



Dhangguryun painting with charcoal ink



'Chinese Pictographs' on turtle shell



Damala Class group art piece of Elcho Island. 150 x 70cm in size.

## Buddies at School- Working Together

Children at Gawa Christian School have a special bond and it always make me smile to see the children playing and working so well together. This term we have given the students many opportunities to work together by joining the Damala and Mayawa classes together. It is great to see the bigger children in the school being responsible and caring 'buddies' to the younger students in the school. All the students should be proud of the way they look out for each other – just as Christ wants us to!



*Galaburbarri & Bilipili working together*

## Chinese News

It is the Gawa tradition to explore a new country each term. China has been a fascinating country to focus on. This week the Damala class had a fashion parade to model the traditional clothing of China. The Mayawa class are also learning to speak and write in Chinese. They enjoyed learning to write their numbers from 1-10.



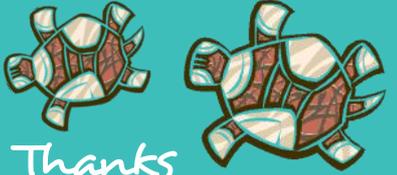
*Damala Fashion Parade and Mayawa Chinese Calligraphy*



## Literacy with Lara & Basma

This term the little kids have been reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. The children have liked making their own caterpillars out of patty pans and enjoyed eating the foods that the caterpillar ate through. It has been great to see the young students learning new letters, sounds and words. We have lots of fun together.

By Basma Ganalarritji



## Thanks

Thank you to the many wonderful individuals and organisations that have generously put up their hands to support our school for 2011. We are always humbled by your continued love for the children at our school. We thank you. Your blessings are far reaching and make a substantial difference in the education of the children here in Gawa.

## Making Damba

In Mayawa class the children have been learning to write sentences in Yolngu Matha classes this week. They also cooked damba (damper) with Basma and Grace too!



*The children wait for their piece of 'damba' from Basma*

## Constable Care visits Gawa

This week we had a special visit from a very famous puppet, Constable Care. He flew all the way from Perth with Matt and Cat his friends (actors working with the Police Department). The students at Gawa were excited and surprised when they laid eyes on a real puppet stage and mesmerized during the show by the different puppet characters. It was entertaining and good fun but also educational. Constable Care shared an important message about protective care. The students learnt the difference between a safe secret and a scary secret and how to use their 'Helping Hand' to remind them of the people they can trust and talk to when they are scared. Thank you for coming to Gawa.



Grace Cumming

*Students with Cat and puppet from the Constable Care puppet Show*

Mayawa Yolngu Matha Story:

Dhuwal damba ḡarraku.

*This damba is mine.*

Dhuwal nyoka ḡarraku.

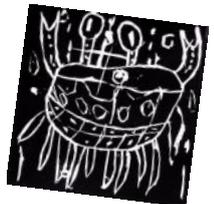
*This crab is mine.*

Dhuwal guku ḡarraku.

*This honey is mine.*

Dhuwal bopu ḡarraku.

*This paw paw is mine.*



# GAWA OP SHOP



Our Op Shop here in Gawa continues to be a huge success. A big thank you to everyone who donated items during the past year.

We had a lot of fun selling our wares at the town market and to residents in surrounding homelands.

We have sold out of many items and our customers have put in requests for the following items:

Donations of any items on the list would be greatly appreciated.

All proceeds go towards fundraising for the school.

Thank you for your continued support!

**Towels**  
**Sheets**  
**Blankets**  
**Baby Clothes**  
**Kids Clothes**

