

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your path straight."

(Proverbs 3:5-6)

Together as a community we are beginning to start trusting rather than relying on our own efforts. Sometimes we struggle with this but we know that we need to trust in God in all situations – the tough ones, as well as the easy ones! And we can rejoice in this too!

Lara Hvala



# Gäwa news

May/June  
2011

## Prayer and Praise



We give thanks for new friendships and for new experiences.

We pray for family time, rest and wonderful holidays for our staff who work so hard throughout the year.

We pray for our students and staff who are performing at the Opening Ceremony of the International Transforming Education Conference in Darwin on July 12<sup>th</sup>!

## Gardens

Many of the new trees and plants have established their roots during the wet season. The gardens around Gäwa are really starting to take shape and look good with the hope of one day creating plenty of shade for the kids. The paw-paw and banana trees are laden with fruit, the ducks are happy and a little pig has joined our community. Every day before school a group of students help feed the ducks and pig, collect the eggs and help clean out the pens. The kids are fascinated and I really enjoy this time with the kids each day. *By Mark Hvala*



Students collecting eggs in the morning (above) and Guwaninywaniny with Gäwa's very own 'Babe'



## Damala News

We have been studying "The Sheep Pig" (Babe) this term. The children have loved the story and enjoyed reading through the text each day. It has been amazing for our kids to also look after the new pig and the ducks! I have often heard the students talking to the pig as if they were Farmer Hogget talking to Babe! The story has come alive. *By Lara Hvala*

## Ganguri (Yams)

Mayawa and Damala kids had the opportunity to spend an afternoon session hunting for yams with Gotha and Warrngilja. The children showed us their skills in spotting the yam vine and then digging deep into the earth to retrieve them.



## Dates to Note

Term 2 Ends: 9th June

International Transforming Education Conference: Darwin 11th – 15th July

Term 3 Starts: 19th July



## Burr'yun (Dancing)

Step aside Elcho Island Chooky Dancers – you may now have some competition with the Gäwa students! Every morning before school music blares throughout the community while students and staff start the day with a dance class. Gäwa Christian School students have been invited to perform dances at the opening ceremony of the International Transforming Education Conference in Darwin during July so we have all been earnestly practicing a modern worship dance and traditional dance. We also like to have a bit of fun and dance to all our favourite songs including a kung fu hip hop dance and an Egyptian bellydance. We all thoroughly enjoy this time of fun and laughter together. What a great way to start the day!

*By Salome Moes*



*Bilipili and Salome performing an Egyptian Bellydance*

# Tyndale School Camp

"This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalm 118:24).  
Each day is an adventure! Live it! Expect surprises! Rejoice!



The Tyndale Christian School students and the Gäwa Christian School students joined together for an amazing camp week in Gäwa. It was fabulous to watch the students from both schools interact, teach each other, learn from each other and form wonderful friendships throughout the week. I want to thank the Tyndale students for their generosity and energy, for trying new things and for being wonderful and caring friends to all the little kids here in Gäwa. God's timing is amazing and your blessings brought life and laughter into our small community and surrounding homelands. *By Lara Hvala*



Our mornings together were spent demonstrating and making traditional Yolju arts and crafts. The boys made their own spears for hunting and the girls made shell bracelets and necklaces. We were also taught some traditional dances. It was wonderful for both the adults and children to have the opportunity to exhibit their skills and knowledge and equally enjoyable for everyone involved to learn about Yolju culture. *By Salome Moes*

## Morning Sessions



## Face Painting and Community Dinner

We love to party in Gäwa and our community dinner to mark the end of the camp was another fabulous night! The Tyndale students brought hair straighteners, make up, face paints, nail polish and hair accessories and the Gäwa students enjoyed getting their makeup done. Basma even got her hair straightened by Tiffany! Everyone looked fabulous for the big night.

Families from Ban'thula and Djurranalpi joined in our celebrations and performed the *Bush Turkey, North Wind and Honey* dances for everyone. We sung together, danced together, prayed together and gave thanks together. Another spectacular night in Gäwa! *By Lara Hvala*



## Afternoon Sessions

Tyndale and Gäwa kids had the opportunity to spend the afternoons hunting, fishing and collecting turtle eggs. We visited Goraja on Wednesday and went hunting for *latjin* (mangrove worms) and spearing *nyoka* (mud crabs). On Thursday afternoon we went to Garrwuru where we found some *lawitji* (turtle eggs), *mekawu* (oysters) and Bilipili caught some *maranydjalk* (stingray). Both afternoons ended in a feast of what was caught, with the brave Tyndale kids sampling some local delicacies. *By Jess Whitby*

## Friends!

The Gäwa kids made friends with the Tyndale Christian School students straight away! We took them to the creek to collect *latjin* (mangrove worms) and *nyoka* (mud crabs). We showed our dances to the girls and they joined in with us. We all enjoyed the week and enjoyed the fun and laughter. Together we danced on the last night around the fire. *By Basma Ganalarritj*



## Student Profile

## BADANGANBA LORRU YUNUPINGU...

Lorry always makes you smile! She is generous, caring, loving and helpful young lady who has a big heart. She is very quiet in class but has a loud and wonderful laugh that can be heard throughout Gäwa at any given time. She loves to dance, dress up and play. She similarly loves to "hang out" with staff and in her quiet way assists us all with our daily tasks. She is a loyal friend to everyone and a blessing to all that meet her.

AGE: 11  
BAPURRU/CLAN: Gumatj  
MOIETY: Yirritja  
SKIN/MALK: Gutjan  
ATTENDANCE: 99% (missed one day!)  
READING LEVEL: Progressed through 4 levels in 6 months  
FAVOURITE ACTIVITIES:  
Dancing, makeup, hunting for *nyoka* (mud crabs)  
FAMILY: Lorry 11, Gapala 8, Murriritj 5, Gilmin 1

