

We love because God first loved us.

1 John 4:19

Ga njaliny njunhi Garraywalañumirrnydja Yolñu walal dhu ga mǎrr-njmathirryi njurukuwurrunguny njunhi wiripuwurrunguny yolñuw walalañ, bili njayi muka njunhi God-Wañarr njurrunguny mǎrr-njmathin litjalanguny.



# Gäwa news

Edition One 2016

We are excited to share the latest news from Gäwa with you. This term we have seen some new developments taking place with the barge landing and teacher accommodation projects commencing. These projects bring much hope for the future to our school and community.

In sharing Easter together, we have been reminded that our greatest hope is found not in these earthly things, but in the sure and certain provision of grace through the work of Jesus on the cross. As a community here in Gäwa we stand united through our shared experiences, shared joys and sufferings, and shared faith. Please continue to give thanks for the unity we have as we stand together in Christ.

Karen



## School at Ban'thula

This term we continued school at the neighbouring homeland of Ban'thula. We travel every day in our troopies always keeping an eye out for local wildlife and fruit in season. We have seen many *mayawa* (frilled neck lizards), *bonba* (butterflies), *weti* (kangaroos), and more recently, *milimili* (dragonflies). We are looking forward to resuming school in our classrooms in Gäwa when the time is ready.

Steve

## Strong Roots



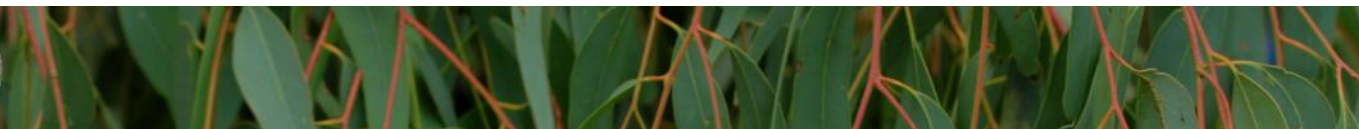
This term Mayawa has been reviewing *Gurrutu* terms (kinship). We made a *gurrutu dharpa* (kinship tree) with a leaf for each *mälk* (skin name) and one side for *Yirritja* moiety and the other for *Dhuwa*. We talked about how families are strong when they have their roots down deep in Jesus. Students coloured and labelled tree templates with their *gurrutu* information and then used their trees to give a presentation about themselves to the class. We also sang a *mälk* song about how Jesus is calling everyone, from every *mälk* to follow him. The students all demonstrated how to use signs for kinship terms, for instance you touch your back for *Märi* (grandmother-mother's side).

Christa

## Mayawa Music

Mayawa Class has been having fun making music this term. Music class has been a time to sing and dance but also to practice speaking and listening in English. We have been stretching, pulling, and tugging lycra fabric side to side and up and down using the Kid's Music Company's song, 'Stretchy Lycra'. We have been shaking shakers up, down, to the left and to the right, fast and slow. The children have enjoyed copying rhythm beats on the drums and taking a turn being the leader in the centre of the circle.

Christa





# Hunting for Bush Fruits

Damala class went hunting for bush fruits in season around the Ban'thula homeland. We found two fruits which were ripe - *Nyik* and *Raga* - which are small, sweet berries. We found a third fruit, *Burukpili*, which was still ripening. Matina, our team teacher who lives in Ban'thula, was able to show us where these fruits are growing and teach us about the history of the local area. We have used this shared experience to develop our literacy skills in English and Yolŋu Matha.

Steve

## Barge Landing



With the two cyclones last year, TC Lam and TC Nathan, the need presented to be able to supply Gäwa and the other surrounding homelands when the road to Galiwin'ku became inaccessible for prolonged periods. NT Christian Schools, Marthakal Homeland Resources, and the NT Government partnered together to fund and build a barge landing ramp at Gäwa. This will enable us to be supplied with food, fuel and resources without depending on the road to Galiwin'ku. It is a wonderful provision which demonstrated many groups of people working together for this common purpose.

## Come and join our team!

Could God be leading you to consider living and serving with us in Gäwa? We will shortly be advertising for a Primary/Middle Teacher to work in our Damala classroom commencing Term 3, 2016. Keep an eye on the NT Christian Schools website for details over the next few weeks and spread the word.

<http://www.ntcsa.nt.edu.au>



## Building for the Future

Work has commenced on a new facility for our school which will provide teacher and visitor accommodation, storage and solar power for our school site. Following the loss of our wind turbine in TC Lam last year, we are excited to be looking to the future with a state-of-the-art solar installation to supply a large proportion of the power for our entire school site. New accommodation will replace the 'temporary' housing which was built for the first Gäwa Christian School Principal and has since survived several cyclones!



Karen



## Easter Celebrations in Gäwa

