We are so blessed to be surrounded by the beautiful children from Nanjinyburra, Ban’thula and Gawa. They are all very special in their own quirky ways and make us smile everyday! Enjoy reading our stories.

“It let the little children come to me. Don’t stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to people who are like these children.” Mark 10:14

“Manymuk walal du günhi marrtji räli njarakal, yaka walalany gulmaran. Bili God– wanjarrwuny rom njanha balanyarawna nhakun dhiya-kurrungun djamarrkuljw’nha” Mäk 10:14

It has been wonderful to have Bek Emery with us for three weeks as a student teacher. The students have enjoyed her warm and kind way and she has taken morning sessions on language and literacy from The Barrumbi Kids and afternoon lessons on history, science and computers. It has been a mutual learning process and she is keen to work next year in an Indigenous community. We wish her all the best.

We have also been reunited with Lynne Samson who has come for a 10 week literacy intensive. Lynne has been to Gawa twice before and it is wonderful to have her enthusiasm and expertise in leading small group workshops. She runs programs especially catered to the literacy levels of the students. They enjoy the activities, games, role-plays and intensive one-on-one reading. It is great to have another variation to offer for learning and to see progress made in crucial English skills.
In Mayawa class this week the children have been estimating and measuring the heights of their classmates, community members and teachers. The tallest in our class is Lorru (133cm) and the shortest is Dhangguryun (110cm).

For our weekly science program this term we are focussing on The Body. We have learned so far about our skeleton and the various names, sizes and purposes of the bones. We have also started work on our heart and lungs and how they function. We have completed a few experiments, watched parts of a good kids DVD on the body, but the favourite activity is trying to put back all the internal organs of our life size dummy! We are yet to name him so suggestions are welcome!

With some new kayaks on show, the boys had a turn at pedalling and sailing their own boats. There were plenty of squeals of delight as we flew through the water out to the point. A small shark and a turtle were sighted and there was even a capsize or two. Thankfully, with the proper safety jackets and training all the boys had a wonderful afternoon and the cries of “Tomorrow...again?!” were ringing through Gawa.

Wind Turbine Project

A wind turbine is scheduled to arrive on our shores in October. The tower is 25 metres high and each blade measures 12 metres. The wind turns the turbine which generates power to charge a shed full of batteries. The turbine will provide clean, cost effective power to our remote community.

Bill & Maria Schroder have come up to Gawa for three months to work on the project preparing the site and then installing the turbine. Harry and Bill have been busy this last month constructing a huge frame that has been placed in the ground for the turbine foundation.

The boys will be busy in the next week mixing and pouring approx 43 cubic metres of concrete. We are racing against time to get the turbine up and running. We will keep you posted with the progression of this project.