

Kales Soki, from Dauan Island, walks through Munro Matin Parklands. Picture: Brendan Radke

## **AWARDS FOR CAIRNS PROJECTS**

## **BRONWYN FARR**

MUNRO Martin Parklands and Little Roo's Playground at Whitfield State School were among the winners at the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects awards on Thursday.

AILA Queensland jury chairperson Lauren Newton said Munro Martin Parklands was "a world-class outdoor cultural place" that could encourage and

accommodate events in the arts sector.

"Thoughtful and unusual plant selections create an outdoor atmosphere of intrigue, curiosity and even a somewhat natural noise mitigation through the overarching vine structures." she said.

"The Little Roo's Playground builds on a short story created by the Whitfield State School teachers to assist children transitioning from preschool into prep. The narrative is brought to life with the creation of a series of play experiences featuring little Roo's new friends, each character based on animals found in North Queensland.

"The outcome functions beyond the basic purpose of a playground, providing prompts for lessons on the natural environment, relationships, resilience and fostering environmental stewardship in later life."