



## CONSERVATION WEEK 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> October 2011

As part of Conservation Week activities, Okiwi School students visited Glenfern Sanctuary to learn about how and why the Sanctuary is operating.

Students actively participated in a presentation in the interpretation room, contributing their knowledge about the local environment and their roles in assisting to protect and enhance it.

Students were given a NZ bird name 'label' in either Maori or English and rose to the challenge of finding their 'partner' by linking the different names.

We discussed some rare and threatened species that occur on Great Barrier Island and where they may be found within Glenfern Sanctuary. We compared the pest management regime at Glenfern Sanctuary to the Okiwi Nature Reserve, where students have been actively involved in pest management on a regular basis as it is next to their school.

Scott drove the Unimog with half of the students to the top of the hill so they could walk across to the Kauri Tree, whilst the other half walked up Glenfern Walk. We searched for interesting critters, including native fish, Puriri moths and Chevron skink, and investigated the trail network that accesses the bait stations and tracking tunnels. We identified seedlings and mature trees and discussed forest processes contributing to biodiversity.

Students returned after their walk and performed a karakia that was much appreciated by Glenfern staff. We would like to thank Okiwi school for



their enthusiastic participation at Glenfern Sanctuary and their efforts in conserving our local environments.



### The Kauri Tree

Yesterday we went to Tony Bouzaid's house and saw a 600 year old Kauri tree.

There was a swinging bridge leading into the kauri tree so we could stand on a platform.

On the way to the kauri tree we went on an army truck to the top of the hill. On the track we saw heaps of different types of trees like puriri, and kawaka, also known as NZ cedar, Tony Bouzaid's favourite tree. Mairehau was another tree we saw and if you picked one of the leaves and split it in half and smelled, it smelled really nice.

On the way down from the kauri tree we saw a black petrel nest inside a puriri tree.

By Grace (Okiwi school student)