DARADGEE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE
2012 WRITERS’ AND ILLUSTRATORS’ CAMP
WITH ALISON LESTER AND ELIZABETH HONEY

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Tuesday October 9 - Friday October 12 (Week 1 of Term 4)

Be quick! There are just 50 places available for students from Years 6-9.

Students participating will:

- Work closely with Alison Lester and Elizabeth Honey, two of Australia’s most prolific and commercially and critically successful authors/illustrators.
- Engage in a series of workshops lead by Alison and Elizabeth that explore the processes of writing, illustrating, editing and producing literary works.
- Have the opportunity to work with like-minded peers in an intensive, focussed environment.
- Create a piece of children’s literature.

The camp also presents an invaluable professional learning opportunity for teachers and teacher librarians who are welcome to participate in day sessions or for the duration of the camp.

**Alison Lester**

Popular children’s writer and illustrator, Alison Lester is the inaugural Australia Children’s Laureate, an honour she’s sharing with Boori Monty Pryor for 2012/13. A multi-awarded writer and illustrator, Alison Lester has published over 30 books including beloved picture books such as *Magic Beach*, *Imagine* and *My Farm*. More recently she has been writing novels, including *The Quicksand Pony* and the Bonnie and Sam series illustrated by Roland Harvey. The classic *Are we there yet?* published in 2004 has been chosen to help promote this years’ National Year of Reading, selling more than 150,000 copies to date. It was inspired by an actual journey undertaken by Alison, her husband and their three young children around Australia in a campervan. Every parent who has done a road trip with children will be familiar with the often repeated title of the book coming from the back seat!

Fittingly, Alison is an ambassador for the National Year of Reading. Alison’s rural background and love of nature is evident in her book subjects, and her rich, detailed illustrations allow pre-readers to “get” the storyline. Alison Lester spent her childhood on a farm in South Gippsland then trained as an art teacher. A stint at Victoria’s Distance Education decorating student work sheets followed by the birth of her first child and a desire to work from home saw Alison telephone a publisher to ask for an illustration job. After five years of illustrating other people’s books (and critiquing their authorship) she had a go at her own book with *Clive Eats Alligators*, which kicked off her 21-year career.

**Elizabeth Honey**

Elizabeth Honey grew up on a farm in Gippsland and studied Film and Television at Swinburne University. She is the award-winning author of many junior novels such as *45 & 47 Stella Street* and *Remote Man*, as well as picture books and poetry. Elizabeth Honey’s books are published in the USA, Italy and Germany. Her playful humour, originality and energy strike a chord with kids all over the world. Her most recent book, *To the Boy in Berlin*, was written in collaboration with her German translator, Heike Brandt.

Elizabeth says the best things about being a writer is are the places writing takes her and the people she meets. Another bonus of writing is when someone shyly tells her that they really liked one of her books.
2012 Program and Sponsorship:
Once again our region has sponsored the Writers & Illustrator’s Camp as part of the FNQ Gifted Students Program. This grant of $6 000 has helped offset costs. The final cost per student (GST Excl) is as follows:

Estimated Camp Fees - $190 (Based on 45 students attending) covering meals, accommodation, art equipment and prorata author/illustrator fee

Camp T Shirt (optional) - $25

Transport – Private/School arrangements

___________________________ State School/College wishes to send _______________ students.

Our co-ordinating teacher will be: ___________________________

Email address: ________________________________

Please ensure that all Expressions of Interest are submitted to the Daradgee Environmental Education Centre by Wednesday 16th May, 2012. Your EOI can be faxed (40633743) or emailed (the.principal@daradgeeec.eq.edu.au).