



COLOURFUL: Tori Shelton and Ty Dickenson, both 9 *Picture by Stephen Wark*

Mad hatters for good cause

By **JESSICA BROWN**

FUNNY hats and wigs are in demand at Wirreanda public in the lead up to Dress Down Drug Free on September 24.

The school is one of many groups supporting the day with all money raised going to Healthy Harold at Life Education Australia.

Teacher Kristen Stone said the school decided to support the day as part of its drug education course.

“By dressing up the students high-

light their awareness of the issues,” she said. The dress down campaign is aimed at young people encouraging them to make healthy life decisions and eliminate illegal drug use, reduce smoking and avoid or delay alcohol use in the future. Nine-year-old Ty Dickson chose to make a colourful feathered hat for the day. He said the drug awareness program taught him why drugs were bad and how to choose healthy foods. Dress Down Drug Free has been running in the Hunter for more than nine years.