Young filmmakers put spin on rules

TEACHERS and students at Wattawa Heights Public School have got down and dirty in their latest film, produced under the Bridges to Higher Education program.

The initiative, now in its fifth year, involves a filmmaker/lecturer visiting participating schools at both primary and high school level to mentor teachers and students in filmmaking. The teachers then assist the students to develop short live action or animated films.

Through the University of Sydney’s Compass program, Bridges to Higher Education is utilising the skills of filmmakers from the Sydney College of Arts to bring film skills to students from areas under represented in higher education.

This year students from Wattawa Heights Primary, Condell Park High and Sir Joseph Banks High Schools took part.

Wattawa Heights Public School produced their first film under the program last year.

Assistant principal Nitsa Commi- nos said this year their film communicated school rules in a humorous way.

“It showed a school where nobody threw their rubbish in the bin,” she said. “Eventually the litter accumulates to ludicrous proportions and attracts vermin. The students meet the vermin in several shocking and terrifying encounters.”

Bridges Chair and Director of Social Inclusion, Annette Cairnduff, said the film course was a great opportunity for teacher professional development and for students to learn new technology, literacy and communication skills.

Wattawa Heights Public School have produced a short film under the Bridges to Higher Education program.