

Academic way to TV stardom

EIGHTEEN Connells Point Public School students battled it out last Friday to be named 2009 winners of Channel 7 show *It's Academic*.

"The questions were quite basic," Caitlin Semsarian, 12, said. "We were nervous at the beginning of the competition, but it was a fairly relaxed environment."

Clara Chow, 11, said it was exciting to see behind the scenes of a television show.

Teachers Paul Cohen and Anne Wale helped coach the team to victory and said students appeared to enjoy the experience, despite the long hours filming and studying.

"There was a great camaraderie in the team. There are few opportunities for academic competition in a team for students that may not be that great at sport," Mr Cohen said.

"The most rewarding thing, I think, was seeing children succeed. They worked together for a common goal - they wanted [to win] for their school."



Smart cookies: The captains of the winning team of Connells Point Public School students with some of their prizes.

Picture: Jane Dyson