

WELCOMING THE FIRST YEAR B.ED, STUDENTS

- **Jyaysi Kapadia**

“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.”

— Benjamin Franklin

With such a philosophy in mind the Second year (S.Y.) student council of SXIE carried out the welcoming of the F.Y. students. The interaction began with student council cleverly making all students sit in a large circle. Not more than two first year or second year students were allowed to sit next to each other. After being seated in the large circle we had to introduce ourselves. The uniqueness of this introduction was that we not only had to say our name but we had to say it with an adjective beginning from the first letter of our name. Some examples are lovely Lovenia, attractive Aletta, magnificent Mystica. The introduction broke barriers, if any existed. It gave each person there a unique identity of being a personality an individual with a quality.

The second activity that the student council engaged us in was “passing the parcel with a twist”. Those who had the parcel in their hand when the music stopped had to open the box and pick a chit. The chits had questions regarding their life, their journey of life till now and their perceptions. The questions were fun-loving and of a mature that would help reveal the personality of the individual who answered. The SY student council was courteous enough to graciously give more chances to FYs to answer these questions. This was a gesture that was most appropriate the FYs were not only warming up to the SYs but also amongst themselves as this was their very first class interaction as well. This helped many people reveal their fears, perceptions and expectations regarding the B.Ed. Course.



Followed by this a fun interactive treasure hunt was conducted. There were roughly 5 members from FY and SY in each group making it a group of 10 individuals. The treasure hunt was for FYs to familiarise themselves with the college premises and do so with the kind help of their loving seniors. Common clues were given for each team and the SYs had to sit in the classroom and guide the FYs to discover and reach the place the clue hinted at. The FYs had to reach the “supposed” location hinted in the clues and then take a selfie there with all 5 members. This activity not only helped the FYs become familiar to the surroundings but it helped the SYs take on the role of true facilitators. Soon the SYs are to be full bloomed teachers and take on the role of silent guiders and facilitators. The activity helped enhance a skill that each teacher must possess with utmost sincerity.

Lastly, an informal interactive session was opened up by the student council. They asked FYs to freely approach seniors, ask doubts and relieve themselves of all apprehensions. The FYs were kind enough to appreciate the efforts of the SY student council and were overwhelmed at such a warm welcome. Payal, a visually challenged FY students asked for unbiased cooperation and fair treatment from her classmates. It was truly enriching when she pronounced her achievements of being a national level swimmer and an athlete. Truly what SXIE is about, breaking barriers, inclusive education and developing creative and joyful teacher educators.

