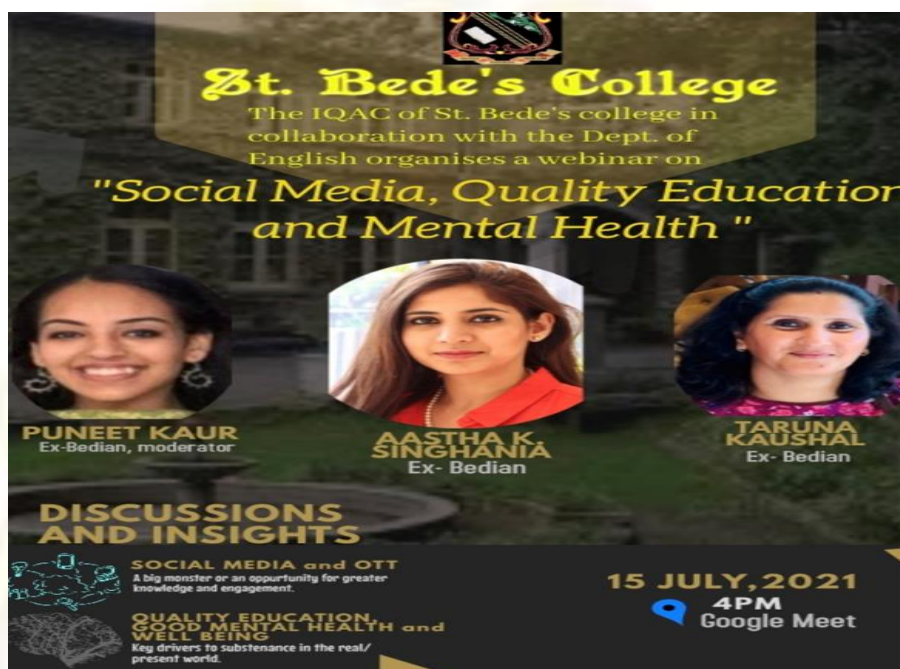




ACTIVITIES FOR THE SESSION 2021-2022

WEBINAR

On July 15, 2021 the English Department got in touch with its alumni of English Honours and organised a webinar with Astha Singhania, Educator based in London, Taruna Kaushal, Counselor and Ms. Puneet kaur, the event manager. The three shared the online platform from different countries and spoke at length on 'the impact of social media and mental health'. The webinar was streamed live on You Tube.



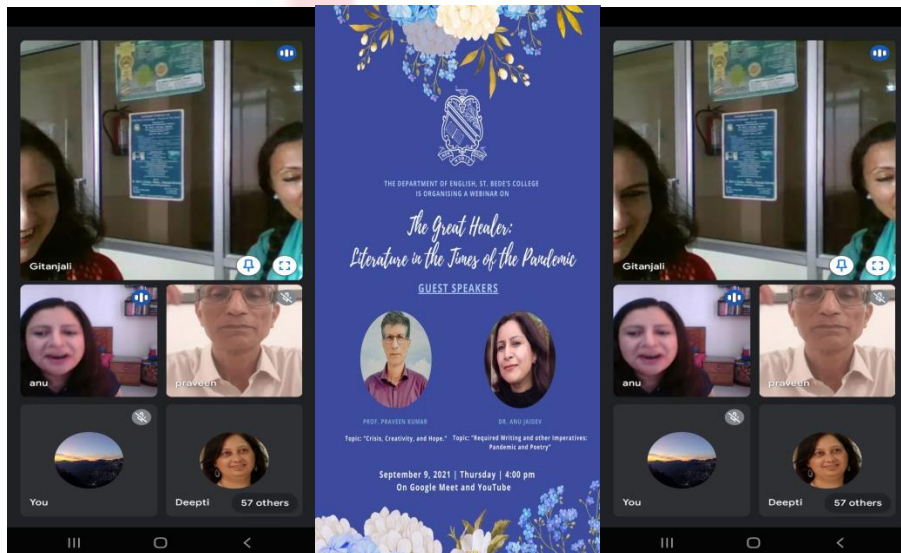
WEBINAR - THE GREAT HEALER: LITERATURE IN THE TIMES OF THE PANDEMIC

The Department of English organised a Webinar on Pandemic Literature on September 9, 2021. The resource persons were Prof. Praveen Kumar and Dr. Anupama Jaidev Karir. Prof. Praveen Kumar spoke on the topic "Crisis Creativity and Hope". In his presentation Prof. Praveen Kumar discussed two texts "When the Breath Becomes Air" by Paul Kalanithi and "The Plague" by Albert Camus. He delved on how the Pandemic literature voices solidarity and binds us with hope for a better future. Dr. Anupama Jaidev Karir spoke on the topic "Required Writing and other Imperatives: Pandemic and Poetry". She spoke about the volumes of poetry written during the times of the pandemic and brought to perspective the myriad poets who could be read for a better insight into the collective consciousness of people in the times of the crisis. The webinar was streamed live on YouTube channel. The



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participants were the students and teachers of St. Bede's and other colleges of Himachal Pradesh.



WORKSHOP ON CREATIVE WRITING

The Department of English and the Editorial Board of the college magazine 'Echoes' organised a Creative Writing Workshop in the seminar room on November 17, 2021. Dr. Usha Bande a renowned writer, translator and critic, conducted the workshop and introduced the techniques of creative writing. Through personal anecdotes and other short stories, she shared tips on effective writing. Dr. Bande emphasised on the importance of becoming aware of one's surroundings and noting down ideas coming to the mind and analyse and think deeply about them. The session was interactive, and the students had an animated discussion with her.



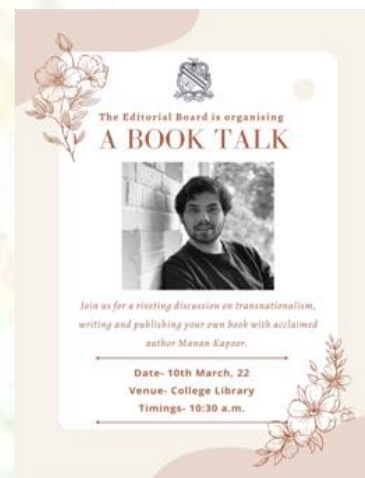


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BOOK TALK

Date: march 10, 2022

The Department of English in collaboration with the library committee organised a Book Talk in the college library on March 10, 2022. Mr. Manan Kapoor an acclaimed author was invited to talk about his book “A Map of Longings: The Life and Works of Agha Shahid Ali”. The book is a biography of Agha Shahid Ali, offering a rich portrait of the poet and the world he inhabited. It talks about a young girl, Inayat, who finds solace in the company of Gul, a Kashmiri pandit and Aaqib in between the insurgency and exodus in Kashmir.



AFTERTHOUGHTS

A departmental initiative towards learning beyond the class room.

This session, once the college fully opened to offline classes from February 20, 2022, the English department chose two short stories for reading and reviewing by the students of final year Honours Course. ‘The Leaf in the Storm’ by Lalithambika Antharjanam and ‘Bayen’ by Mahashweta Devi were selected for a group discussion. The first story was discussed fervently as it involved the partition of India and the physical and psychological sufferings of women.

The second story was seen as a tragedy based on superstitions and the cultural and religious beliefs were questioned and deliberated upon by the students. The students were of a strong opinion that whatever the circumstances, it is the women who undergo greater suffering and emerge as stronger out of their precarious situation through sheer grit and will power.



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