



Department of English
St. Bede's College, Shimla

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH ACTIVITIES 2023-24

GUEST LECTURE: PREPARATION OF COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS

Date: September 12, 2023

Objective: To create awareness about the recent trends of competitive exams among students.

The Department of English at St. Bede's College organized a career counseling session on September 12, 2023, at 2:00 p.m., aimed at creating awareness about the recent trends in competitive exams among students. The session, facilitated by Ms. Chitwan Jamwal, an esteemed alumna of the college, was attended by both teachers and students of the department.

The interactive session featured a talk followed by a fruitful discussion on strategies for preparing for competitive examinations such as NET, GATE, and more. Students from undergraduate and postgraduate programs actively participated, gaining valuable insights and guidance on exam preparation. The session concluded with a vibrant discussion on various effective approaches that students could adopt to enhance their exam readiness.

Outcome:

As an outcome of the session, students not only developed a better understanding of competitive exam preparation but also felt inspired and motivated to strive harder towards their academic





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READING WEEK

Date: September 21-28, 2023

Objective: To inculcate the habit of reading.

The Department of English at St. Bede's College, in collaboration with the library committee, organized "Reading Week" at the college. The event was inaugurated by Dr. Sapna Sharma on 21st September in the library. Participants were encouraged to read a book of their choice issued from the library for the duration of the week. To monitor their progress, a Google form was shared with participants each evening. The closing ceremony, held on 28th September, featured the prolific writer Ms. Minakshi Chaudhary.

Outcome: The students developed an interest in reading and learned to critically analyze books.





BOOK REVIEW – CLOSING CEREMONY

Date: September 28, 2023

Objective: To enable the students to develop critical thinking skills and express their thoughts and opinions related to the books read.

The closing ceremony of Reading Week was held on September 28, 2023, and was graced by the presence of the prolific writer Ms. Minakshi Chaudhary. Throughout the week, participants were encouraged to spend time reading their chosen books in the library, and they were invited to share their reviews during the closing ceremony.

The event commenced with the felicitation of the guest by the principal, Dr. Sr. Molly Abraham, followed by students sharing their book reviews. Ms. Minakshi Chaudhary then spoke about her literary journey and answered several questions from teachers and students. The ceremony concluded with the chief guest's insightful words and interesting perspectives, marking a successful culmination of Reading Week.

Outcome: The students gained confidence to express their views in front of others.





SECRET SANTA

Date: December 12, 2023

Objective: To develop a sense of selflessness among students.

The Department of English at St. Bede's College, Shimla, organized a 'Secret Santa' event to celebrate Christmas on December 12, 2023. The activity aimed to foster a sense of selflessness among students. Participants enjoyed interactive games that allowed them to get to know each other better. The day concluded with a gift exchange, snacks, and music, creating a joyous and festive atmosphere.

Outcome: The students celebrated and learned more about the spirit of Christmas.





**PARTICIPATION IN “LIT MINGLE” AT COLLEGE OF EXCELLENCE
GOVERNMENT COLLEGE SANJAULI.**

Date: October 05, 2023

Objective: To foster a love of literature and writing and to promote creativity and intellectual development among the students.

On October 5, 2023, the Centre of Excellence College, Sanjauli, organized an English Literary Fest, “Litmingle,” inviting all colleges in the city to participate. St. Bede’s College was delighted to accept the invitation.

The students from St. Bede’s College enthusiastically participated in various competitions. Eight teams from different colleges took part, with twelve students from St. Bede’s actively engaging in the activities. The first event of the day was tattoo making under the theme ‘Women Empowerment,’ featuring Riya Verma (B.A.-II English Honours) and Shayontika (B.A.-I English Honours). Manu Sharma (B.A.-I English Honours) and Tamanna (B.A.-III English Honours) represented the college in the short story writing competition, where they creatively developed a story using given starting and ending words. In the poetry competition, themed ‘War,’ Ridhima (B.A.-I English Honours) and Jayanti (B.A.-III English Honours) showcased their talent.

The T-shirt painting competition, themed ‘Feminism,’ saw participation from Manisha (B.A.-I English Honours) and Nandini Nandan Singh (B.A.-III English Honours). The role play competition required participants to enact characters from British literature, with Dia Chandel (B.A.-I English Honours) portraying Queen Margaret from King Henry VI Part 3 and Nikita Thakur (B.A.-II English Honours) portraying Brutus from Julius Caesar. Shreya Thakur and Samriti Sharma (B.A.-II English Honours) participated in the literature trivia quiz, which was both fun and insightful.

After a short break, the much-anticipated results were announced. Riya Verma won first prize in tattoo making, Dia Chandel secured second prize in the role play competition, and Jayanti proudly took third prize in the poetry competition. Additionally, St. Bede’s College secured second place in the quiz competition. The event was an enriching experience for all participants..

Outcome: This event proved to be a building bridge and a link between the students. The fest served to be an invitation to everyone to enjoy the atmosphere. The students also learned a lot from their respective competitors.



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Students receiving prizes



Students participating in various competitions

‘DHAI AKHAR’- NATIONAL LEVEL LETTER WRITING COMPETITION

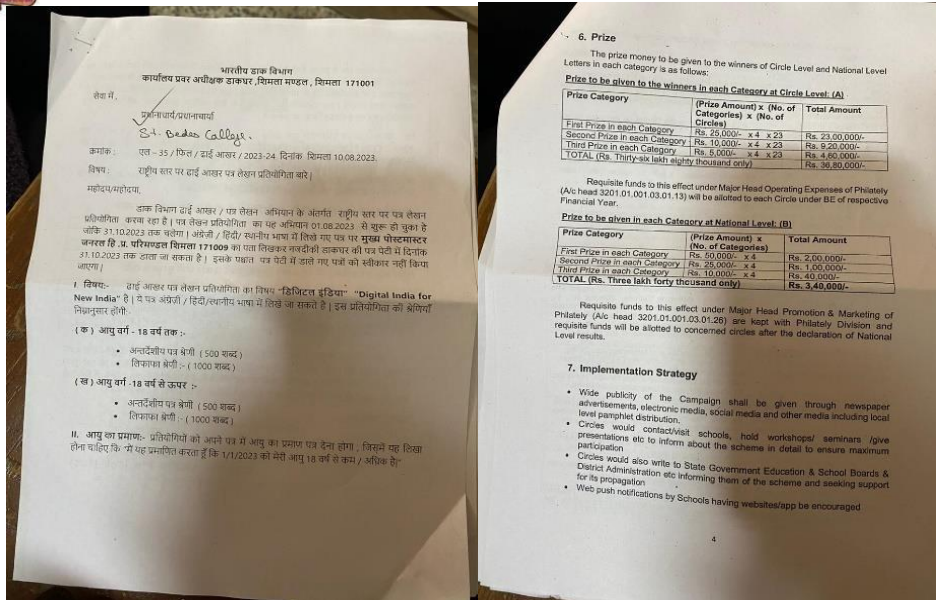
Date: October 31, 2023

Objective: To celebrate the art of letter writing and express thoughts, feelings, and ideas in a meaningful manner.

Students from St. Bede's College enthusiastically participated in the National Letter Writing Competition organized by the Department of Posts. Approximately 150 undergraduate and postgraduate students took part, writing on the theme 'Digital India.' The Department of Posts provided inland letter cards and envelopes for the competition. Letters were addressed to the Chief Postmaster General, and shortlisted students would receive cash prizes and advance to the next round.

It was a proud moment for St. Bede's College when Palak Negi (B.A. III English Honours) won the first prize, receiving a cash prize of Rs. 25,000. Additionally, Ayushi (M.A. English) secured the third prize, also earning a cash prize of Rs. 25,000.

Outcome: The students got a platform to display their writing skills and talents. They were able to understand the art of letter writing.



BE COLORFUL BE YOU

Objective: To help students explore their creativity.

Department of English organized a t-shirt designing activity on February 28, 2024 in the open air theatre at Dina Block. The activity aimed at bringing out the creative talent of the English honours students. The students were provided with t-shirts along with material required for designing. They were given a time slot of one hour in which they had to design their t-shirts with the material provided to them. The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves. At the end of the activity the students were asked to wear the t-shirts designed by them, after which a group photograph was also clicked.

Outcome: The final designs on the t-shirts showcased the creativity of the students and this activity



also helped them to strengthen bonds with their classmates.



LIT FIESTA

Objective: Lit Fiesta, a literary extravaganza, was organized by the Department English of St. Bede's College, Shimla. The event aimed to celebrate literature, creativity, and talent among students from various colleges in and around Shimla.

Description: The event commenced at 9:30 a.m. with a captivating semi-classical dance performance, setting the stage for a day filled with grace and elegance. A comic skit ensued, eliciting hearty laughter from the audience as they enjoyed seeing their favorite characters come to life on stage. Four major inter college events were featured, namely Turncoat, Open Mic, Calligraphy, and Book Cover Design. These events witnessed enthusiastic participation from students who showcased their talents and creativity. The atmosphere buzzed with excitement as students interacted and engaged in these activities. The audience was treated to mesmerizing performances, including melodious singing, and captivating dances, through traditional Nati and Western styles. The talented performers left the audience spellbound with their skills and expressions. In addition to the main events, the Lit Fiesta also featured entertaining and thought-provoking activities such as quizzes, fostering intellectual engagement and fun among the participants. The culmination of the event was marked by the announcement of winners in various



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categories, who were presented with certificates recognizing their achievements at **St. Bede's College, Shimla**

Fiesta at St. Bede's College Shimla was a resounding success, showcasing the vibrancy and talent of students in the realm of literature and the arts.

Outcome: The event not only provided a platform for creative expression but also fostered a sense of camaraderie and community among participants. It served as a testament to the enduring significance of literature and the arts in enriching lives and bringing people together.





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