## A FILM SCREENING EVENT AT VANA VANI

On Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, an enlightening and impactful event was held at Vana Vani Matriculation Higher Secondary School. Three representatives—Ms. Kim, Ms. Swinson Camille Z, Ms. Paramasivan Chitrakala S, and Ms. Raam Hema from the US Consulate General Chennai—visited to raise awareness about racial discrimination among students. The event was attended by students of classes 8 and 9 in the school auditorium.

The session began with a screening of the critically acclaimed movie "Hidden Figures." This film, set in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, vividly portrays the struggles of African Americans facing racial discrimination in the USA. The story follows three African-American women working at NASA who, despite their exceptional intelligence and education, had to fight for basic rights and recognition in a racially segregated society.

The movie profoundly moved the students, shedding light on the harsh realities of racial discrimination and the resilience of those who fought against it. After the screening, the representatives from the US Consulate conducted an engaging quiz session based on the movie. The students actively participated, showcasing their understanding and were rewarded with small gifts for their enthusiasm and knowledge.

Following the quiz, an interactive Q&A session was held, allowing students to ask questions directly to the consulate representatives. The questions raised by the students were insightful and well-received, demonstrating their keen interest in the topic and their desire to learn more about the history and impact of racial discrimination.

This event aimed to celebrate diversity, promote STEM education, foster cultural exchange, and most importantly, highlight the recent collaboration and progress in space cooperation between ISRO and NASA.

This event was a significant step in educating our students about the importance of equality and the ongoing fight against racial discrimination. It provided them with a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by individuals in history and inspired them to promote inclusivity and respect in their own lives.

The presence of the US Consulate representatives and their efforts to engage with the students left a lasting impression, making this awareness program a memorable and educational experience for all.