



**KINCOPPAL – ROSE BAY**  
SCHOOL OF THE SACRED HEART

**PRESS RELEASE: 18/7/2014**

**KINCOPPAL COMMUNITY MOURNS THE LOSS OF SISTER PHILOMENE TIERNAN**

Kincoppal – Rose Bay School has confirmed Sister Philomene Tiernan rscj, aged 77, was a passenger on Malaysian Airline Flight MH17 - shot down over the Ukraine this morning.

Principal Hilary Johnston-Croke said “We are devastated by the loss of such a wonderfully kind, wise and compassionate woman, who was greatly loved by us all. Phil contributed greatly to our community and she touched the lives of all of us in a very positive and meaningful way”.

Kincoppal – Rose Bay students and staff gathered this afternoon in a special Liturgy to pray for Sister Tiernan, her family, the sisters of the Society of the Sacred Heart and the community.

The school is providing counselling to students, who have been deeply affected by this tragic loss of both Phil and the other passengers on the flight.

Sister Tiernan had been associated with Kincoppal – Rose Bay School and the Rose Bay community for more than 30 years, holding a variety of roles, including Director of Boarding and teaching thousands of students, while providing pastoral care inside and outside the school.

She had also held the positions of Board Member of Kincoppal, Provincial of the Society of the Sacred Heart, as well as Co-ordinator of the Sacred Heart schools network across Australia and New Zealand, of which Kincoppal is a member.

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