In anticipation of the 2019-2020 school year, each grade level will be assigned a single selection as mandatory summer reading. This approach to the summer reading program is intended not only to encourage independent reading, but also to enrich the student’s experience in a specific discipline. As first term begins in the fall, the teachers will be incorporating the summer reading selection into their courses, where students can expect to further discuss and ultimately be assessed regarding their understanding of the work. To clarify, there will be no summer reading “form,” as there has been in previous years. Students will be held accountable for the mandatory summer reading through in-class assessment.

**Sophomore Reading Selection**

All incoming sophomores are required to read *Storm in a Teacup: The Physics of Everyday Life* by Helen Czerski (2016). Students should expect an objective test within the first two weeks of school, the grade for which will be recorded in each student’s science course.

**Summary**

This work of nonfiction by a British physicist ignites the reader with a sense of wonder while offering explanations of this technology-oriented world. Through this physical science foundation, students will better understand the complexities of the concerns of the care for the planet Earth.

**Connection to the Sisters of Mercy Critical Concerns**

This text will help students reflect on the concerns for environmental issues of the Earth through a practical understanding of physical science.

**Connection to the sophomore science curriculum**

Sophomores enrolled in Foundations of Scientific Inquiry (CP or Honors), Chemistry (CP or Honors), or Biology (CP or Honors) will see topics from the text incorporated into areas of each curriculum throughout the year.