## <u>#SundayWiMIN23</u> Week 16: Dr Christina McDonnell

Dr Christina Mc Donnell is a GP in Co. Clare and the founder of Genius Juniors Children's Books and Educational Resources, an online children's bookshop.

She graduated from Medicine in NUI Galway in 2011 with a First Class Honours degree. She later graduated from postgraduate General Practice specialist training in the University of Limerick and was awarded Membership of the ICGP in 2015.

She has worked as a GP since this time and holds the role of Chief Medical Practitioner providing on-call services to An Garda Síochána in her region.

Her interest in emergency service provision began when she joined the Civil Defence in her teens and for many years she trained in basic and intermediate life support, fire-service training, radio-control, search and rescue, survival and water safety. Dr Mc Donnell's areas of special interest include paediatric medicine, women's health and emergency medicine. She has worked as both a Clinical and Communication Skills Tutor and a Problem Based Learning Tutor for Graduate Entry Medical School students in the University of Limerick and continues to mentor GP Trainees during the course of their clinical training.

Dr Mc Donnell is also highly qualified in, and has worked in, the field of aesthetic medicine since 2017. She works in Europe's number one doctor-led medical aesthetic clinic and, shortly after commencing her work there, she became their top, and most-sought after, aesthetic practitioner in Europe.

Dr Mc Donnell became a public figure after she founded Genius Juniors, an online children's bookshop at the end of 2020. 100% of proceeds from sales of her incredible range of beautiful children's books are donated to Crumlin and Temple Street children's hospitals. She also runs a 'Donate a Book' initiative which has resulted in thousands of books being distributed to children in hospitals nationwide. Furthermore, Genius Juniors runs a 'Preloved' initiative, whereby donations of used books are distributed to disadvantaged families.

She is passionate about promoting the benefits of reading with children having seen the enormous benefits reading with her own child has had.

Dr McDonnell is currently on Maternity leave with her second baby, after which she will return to her medical and teaching roles and reopen her online bookshop, <u>www.geniusjuniors.ie</u>