



Thanks and Have Fun Running the Country: Kids' Letters to President Obama

By Jory John

McSweeney's Publishing. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Thanks and Have Fun Running the Country: Kids' Letters to President Obama, Jory John, A few days after the election of Barack Obama, kids around the country were asked to provide advice and guidance to their new president. In this collection, there's loads advice for the president, often hilarious, sometimes heartfelt, and occasionally downright practical. Students from all over the country reach out to the 44th president, speaking to the issues closest to their hearts, relating their life stories, and asking for help. Topics include the economy, education, war, global warming, race relations in America and immigration. The book also includes letters about snow cones, puppies, microwavable burritos, dinosaur projects, multiplication and the ghost of Abraham Lincoln, reportedly haunting a White House bedroom. Proceeds benefit 826 National, a network of nonprofit writing and tutoring centers around the country.



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After the U.S. election, lots of kids wrote to President Obama to let him know what they thought about his new role in the White House. Thanks and Have Fun Running the Country is a collection of the heartfelt and hilarious letters that were written by kid. Editor: Jory John. After the U.S. election, lots of kids wrote to President Obama to let him know what they thought about his new role in the White House. Thanks and Have Fun Running the Country is a collection of the heartfelt and hilarious letters that were gathered by the cool people behind 826 Valencia—a fantastic writing and tutoring ce Patty Shinseki, a volunteer in the Office of Presidential Correspondence, reads letters from children to President Obama in the kids mailroom in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building in Washington, D.C. Becky Harlan/NPR. The Obama administration is rushing to tie up loose ends before packing up — protecting the rusty patched bumblebee, ending the Cuba "wet foot, dry foot" immigration policy, settling a fraud case over defective air bags and investigating police in Chicago. Obama gets 10 letters at the end of each weekday he's at the White House, and each week a few of those are from children. He'll continue to get those 10 letters until he leaves, Reeves says. NPR thanks our sponsors. Become an NPR sponsor. Lily, 8, wrote a letter to the president saying that he should do something fun, like wear a tie-dye shirt and shorts to an important event or visit Walt Disney World with the first family. The White House did not provide Lily's last name. President Obama Unveils 'Encore' Summer Playlist. Obama responded to Lily in a letter posted on the White House's Medium channel, writing that she seemed like a great kid with plenty of spunk to help keep our nation strong. "While I don't know how the First Lady or my daughters would feel about me wearing a tie-dye shirt in public," he continued, "I do know that one of my greatest responsibilities as President is ensuring your generation can thrive" and that includes making sure you can live in safety and reach for boundless opportunity. Four elementary school kids wrote letters to President Obama about gun control. Flag for Inappropriate Content. Download Now. Save Save Kids write letters to President Obama For Later. 0 ratings 0% found this document useful (0 votes). 53K views 4 pages. Kids write letters to President Obama. Uploaded by. Carol Kuruvilla. Description: Four elementary school kids wrote letters to President Obama about gun control. Copyright: Attribution Non-Commercial (BY-NC). Lily thinks the president should do something fun to help cheer the country up. She wrote a letter to President Obama explaining that she not only wants people to be calm, happy and safe, she has suggestions on how this can be achieved. "Please do something fun," she wrote. "Wear a tie-dye shirt and shorts to something important. Go on a water skiing trip in the Caribbean." "Thanks for the fun letter and suggestions," he wrote. "You seem like a great kid, and I can tell you've got plenty of spunk to help keep our Nation strong! And while the President was unsure about the tie-dye shirt idea, one thing he's absolutely sure of is Lily's potential. Always remember that you have a big role to play in shaping the world and making a difference in people's lives," his letter said.

Here are some excerpts from a new book, *Thanks and Have Fun Running the Country: Kids' Letters to President Obama* which contains letters that children have written to Obama. Dear President Obama, You are just like a big me, because I am from Chicago and I am biracial and have curly hair. I live in Seattle now, but I'm still from Chicago. How do you feel about being president? I have an idea. Why don't you give everybody, even the homeless, ten dollars every day? Each person would need this money for food, clothes, toys, and many other needs. And don't forget to give the kids money, too. My adv President Obama often responds to the ten letters. Most of the time he jots down notes in the margins about how to respond so that his staff writers can elaborate an official response. "And often his margin notes are so extensive, he's practically responding to the letter himself," says Reeves. After that, mail for Obama will be handed over to the Former President's Office or the President's Library and Foundation. When the next President takes office, mail that arrived for them prior to January 20th will be waiting for them and the new staff of the Office of Presidential Correspondence. A version of this piece originally aired on Slate's Working podcast as part of a series on White House jobs produced by Jacob Brogan and Mickey Capper. Lily thinks the president should do something fun to help cheer the country up. She wrote a letter to President Obama explaining that she not only wants people to be calm, happy and safe, she has suggestions on how this can be achieved. "Please do something fun," she wrote. "Wear a tie-dye shirt and shorts to something important. Go on a water skiing trip in the Caribbean." "Thanks for the fun letter and suggestions," he wrote. "You seem like a great kid, and I can tell you've got plenty of spunk to help keep our Nation strong!" And while the President was unsure about the tie-dye shirt idea, one thing he's absolutely sure of is Lily's potential. "Always remember that you have a big role to play in shaping the world and making a difference in people's lives," his letter said. What advice do kids have for President Barack Obama as he starts his second term? Helping homeless people and pets, having schools start later and improving school lunches are just a few of the ideas submitted in letters written by thousands of kids in honor of National Handwriting Day on January 23. Write your own letter to President Obama. Take our presidential trivia quiz. Amaze your parents with these inaugural facts. I would like to thank you for supporting gay rights. The reason is because I have two moms who have been waiting for these rights. I would also like to say if it weren't for them I wouldn't be writing to you; I would still be in Cambodia. So I am very grateful and proud to have two moms. I believe they deserve to have equal rights. Respectfully She wrote to President Obama to let him know that the "country needs more spunk." Lily suggested that the President should make sure to do something fun and asked him to keep the country calm. (My dream job is cardiovascular surgeon.) Keep running the country! Sincerely, Lily 8 years old. P.S. Thank you for being such an inspiration. Thanks for the fun letters and suggestions. You seem like a great kid, and I can tell you've got plenty of spunk to help keep our Nation strong! While I don't know how the First Lady or my daughters would feel about me wearing a tie-dye shirt in public, I do know that one of my greatest responsibilities as President is ensuring your generation can thrive "and that includes making sure you can live in safety and reach for boundless opportunity."