



**The News ©**  
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*by Nia Cason*

Almost half a million new cases of covid-19 have been reported in the past 24 hours. A little more than 464,000 cases were recorded according to the latest public health report France. This is a new record in France since the start of the pandemic and is a consequence of the spread of the Omicron variant.

Despite the health crisis, the Salon de l'Agriculture is making a comeback this year. After being canceled last year, the event will take place from February 26th to March 6th, at Porte de Versailles in Paris. This 58th edition will be held with the wearing of a mandatory mask and vaccination pass, if the measure comes into force. Ventilation will also be optimized.

Jean-Michel Blanquer has defended himself after the criticisms concerning his announcement of the health protocol for schools from Ibiza, during the holidays. The Minister of Education admitted that if it was to be redone, he would choose another place, but that basically it would not have changed anything.

Teachers and parents of students are still unhappy. A new day of mobilization is planned tomorrow to denounce the health protocol in schools. However, the Parisian procession was banned by the police headquarters of Paris. According to the CGT, this is an "unacceptable" decision.

Emmanuel Macron will present the major projects of the French presidency of the European Union at midday in Strasbourg. Several subjects will be discussed, in particular the establishment of a European minimum salary.

Nearly 14 years after her release, Ingrid Betancourt wants to run for president in Colombia. The former hostage of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia is at the head of the Green Oxygen environmentalist party. The Franco-Colombian will participate in a primary that will decide between the candidates of the centrist coalition.