



The News ©

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by Emma Phillips

The government is coming to the aid of victims of this summer's forest fires. Gabriel Attal, who is Minister of Public Action and Accounts, has said that victims can benefit from tax aid. In an interview with the publication the Dauphiné Libéré, he explained that a dedicated "fire unit" would be set up in the coming week. What this means is that private individuals affected by the fire could suspend paying their income tax instalments for a certain time and could have local taxes suspended on damaged housing. Rent values might also be revised. For businesses affected by the fires, the government has pledged deferred tax deadlines and the accelerated reimbursement of VAT or CICE credits

In Colmar, a young man has been shot dead during an altercation after a so-called "urban rodeo" which involves repeated maneuvers in vehicles in a fast and irresponsible way in town centres. The 27-year-old victim was shot on Saturday by the driver of a scooter. A judicial inquiry against persons unknown has been opened. Minister of the Interior Gérald Darmanin has assured that "Significant resources are being implemented to find the killer".

Still on the subject of the urban rodeo phenomenon, a 7 year-old girl has come out of her coma after being hit by a motorcycle being driven deliberately flamboyantly in Pointoise on August 5. The town's mayor confirmed that the girl had regained consciousness yesterday but that she remained in hospital. The suspect has been charged.

The last of the French troops from the anti-jihadist force, Operation Barkhane have left Mali after 9 years of deployment. The President's headquarters at the Elysee Palace has reiterated that France nonetheless remains committed to the Sahel area and fighting terrorism.

It's good news for nearly 3 million families today as the government-funded back-to-school allowance will be paid out from today. This year, the payment to help cover back to school essentials will be made a little differently to previous summers. As the bill on purchasing power has now been adopted, it means that the amount has increased by 4%. Payment will be made in 2 instalments, the first, today, covers the amount before the revaluation, with the extra 4% being paid out in early September. The amount varies from 392 euros to 428 euros per child

And finally, France has been crowned the European Champions in swimming, after winning the 4 x 100 m mixed freestyle relay event last night at the European Championships in Rome.