



## **The News ©**

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*by Emma Phillips*

Getting a train anywhere this weekend could prove tricky as a little under half the country's trains are cancelled until Sunday. The announcement comes from the SNCF as their controllers go on a surprise strike. Train running times are expected to return to normal by Monday. In the meantime, tickets already purchased can be cancelled or exchanged free of charge.

60% of France's population could be exposed to power cuts this winter. A government circular has been sent to all prefects in anticipation of disruption to the grid. Some trains may be cancelled and school hours could be affected. The Minister of Education, Pap NDiaye has announced that in the event of power shortages there would be no school during the morning.

Yesterday saw a horrific discovery in the Vaucluse. The bodies of two babies were found in a freezer in a house located in the town of Bédoin. Their deaths date back to more than three years ago. The exact date of death has not yet been determined. A 41-year-old woman was arrested and taken into custody, supposedly the mother of the two victims.

Notre Dame cathedral is looking set to re-open in 2024. This is what the man responsible for overseeing restoration work in the cathedral, General Jean-Louis Georgelin had to say yesterday. Reconstruction of one of the vaults that collapsed in the 2019 fire is now complete. Now, lots of the cathedral's decorative work is being restored including murals, ironwork, joinery and stained glass windows.

And finally to football and this winter's World Cup is certainly serving up its fair share of surprises. Two major European teams got knocked out yesterday. Belgium are gone after drawing 0-0 to Croatia. Germany are also out despite yesterday's 4-2 win against Costa Rica. Coming up today there is Ghana against Uruguay at 4 p.m. and Serbia play Switzerland at 8 p.m.