



The News

November 14th, 9am ©

by Sarah Heath

President Macron is expected in the Pas de Calais at the end of this morning. The head of state is visiting the département to see for himself the effects of successive episodes of flooding. The area is one of several parts of the country which is still under an orange alert for flooding, including the Nord, the Vendée, the Charente Maritime, the Doubs and the Jura. Warnings have also been issued in the Savoie and the Haute Savoie for risk of heavy rain and potential flooding.

“Rather worrying results,” were the words of Gabriel Attal, the Minister of Education in an article in Le Parisien. The Minister is alarmed about the level of fourth grade students in the topics of French and Maths. A study has shown that 14.2% of fourth grade students are in great difficulty in French according to the results communicated by the Ministry. Among the measures put forward by Mr Attal in order to resolve the problem is to create streaming in these two subjects for the next school year.

Today might see final discussions on the bill on a citizen’s right to choose end of life treatment. Emmanuel Macron today brings ministers to the table at the Elysée to finalise the details of the proposed bill. Uncertainties still remain on the full text regarding assisted dying. Last April, the citizens' convention voted 76% in favour of a person with a terminal illness being helped to end their own life.

To rugby news and a case that shook the French XV before the Rugby World Cup. Bastien Chalureau has been accused of being involved in a racially motivated fight in January 2020 in Toulouse. His appeal trial begins today.

And finally to football news. The French team paid tribute yesterday to the victims of the attacks of November 13th, 2015 by holding a minute's silence at Clairefontaine before a training session. The French team will play against Gibraltar in Nice on Saturday before going to Athens to face Greece.