



The News

February 19th, 8am ©

by Emma Phillips

The rail strike involving staff at the SNCF has come to an end. After three days of disruptions for passengers, train services are returning to normal. However, there could be another strike ahead next weekend.

There will be no visitors admitted to the Eiffel Tower today. The unions for the tower's operating company have called a strike to demand better management of the site from the local council. Staff there are also threatening to strike this summer during the Olympic Games.

With five days to go until the start of the annual agricultural show in Paris, the country's farmers are keeping up pressure on the government. While the farmers wait for a progress update from ministers, a scattering of protests has started up again in Marseille, Aix en Provence and Dunkirk.

Bruno Le Maire has spelled out that all of France's ministries will be looking to make huge savings this year, with the "whatever it costs" days immediately following the Covid pandemic well and truly over. The Minister of the Economy appeared on last night's 8pm news on channel TF1. Growth for the next year will be less strong than initially forecast as the state implements budget cuts across the board in order to recoup 10 billion euros.

And finally, the film *Anatomie d'une Chute* bagged a Bafta at the British film awards last night. Justine Triet's film received the Bafta for best original screenplay, to add to its Palme d'Or and two Golden Globes. Last night, Christopher Nolan's *Oppenheimer* was awarded seven Baftas.