



The News

May 30th, 9am ©

by Emma Phillips

Nearly nine out of ten pharmacies will be closed today due to industrial action that's following up on the Pentecost weekend. Pharmacists are on strike to highlight the economic difficulties facing pharmacies and medicine shortages. Demonstrations are planned across the country.

There was darkness across several of France's town halls last night as Benoît Payan, the mayor of Marseille, encouraged the lights to be turned off in memory of the civilians killed in Gaza. There were also several demonstrations across the country yesterday evening, including a large one in Paris, to support the Palestinian people and protest the thousands of civilian deaths in Israeli airstrikes over the last 7 months.

Yesterday evening in the Assemblée Nationale, a screening of a documentary on daily life in Gaza, showing mutilated children and dead bodies covered in dust, was organised by Aymeric Caron of the party La France Insoumise. Only fifteen or so elected officials showed up.

Over in Britain, the UK parliament has been dissolved this morning in anticipation of July's general election. The 650 seats in the House of Commons will now be vacant until Parliament reconvenes after the general election on July 4th. At the moment, polls show the Labour party in the lead, which means it could be the end of the line for prime minister Rishi Sunak and the 14 years that the Conservative party has been in power.

And finally, the film "Un p'tit truc en plus" from the director Artus is proving a smash hit in theatres. A month after its release, the feature film starring actors with learning difficulties has become the film with the most admissions in French cinemas this year. More than four and a half million people so far have seen the film.