



## The News

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by *Emma Phillips*

The pupil who stabbed a teacher yesterday in Sanary-sur-Mer has admitted that the attack was pre-meditated. The teacher remains in critical condition today after sustaining stab wounds during a class with the 14-year-old. Now in police custody, the teenager told investigators that he blamed the art teacher for writing negative comments in his file. No classes were held at La Guicharde secondary school in Sanary-sur-Mer and a psychological support unit has been set up.

Today, the court will hear from the defence in the ongoing trial concerning the European parliamentary assistants who were actually working for the Front National. The defence arguments are expected to take at least three and a half days, after the advocates general recommended four years in prison, one of which custodial and a five-year ban on running for office for Marine Le Pen. If these recommendations are upheld, Le Pen would not be able to stand in the next Presidential election in 2027. The Court of Appeal's decision is expected by this summer.

The budget for the fight against cancer will remain unchanged until 2030 in France. The announcement comes from Emmanuel Macron on World Cancer Day. The President confirmed that the next five years will see more than €1.7 billion invested and that part of the ongoing plan will be the creation of a national cancer registry. The coming weeks will also see trialing of a screening process for lung cancer. The Minister of Health wants widespread screening in place by 2030.

If you haven't registered to vote yet, now is the time to do it as today is the last day to register online for the municipal elections coming up in March. It will also still be possible to register at your local town hall until Friday. The website [service-public.fr](http://service-public.fr) is available for anyone who needs to check their electoral status.

And finally, the events known as the "Pre-Olympic Games" are underway ahead of the Milan Cortina Winter Games. The first four curling matches are taking place before the official opening ceremony unfolds on Friday evening.