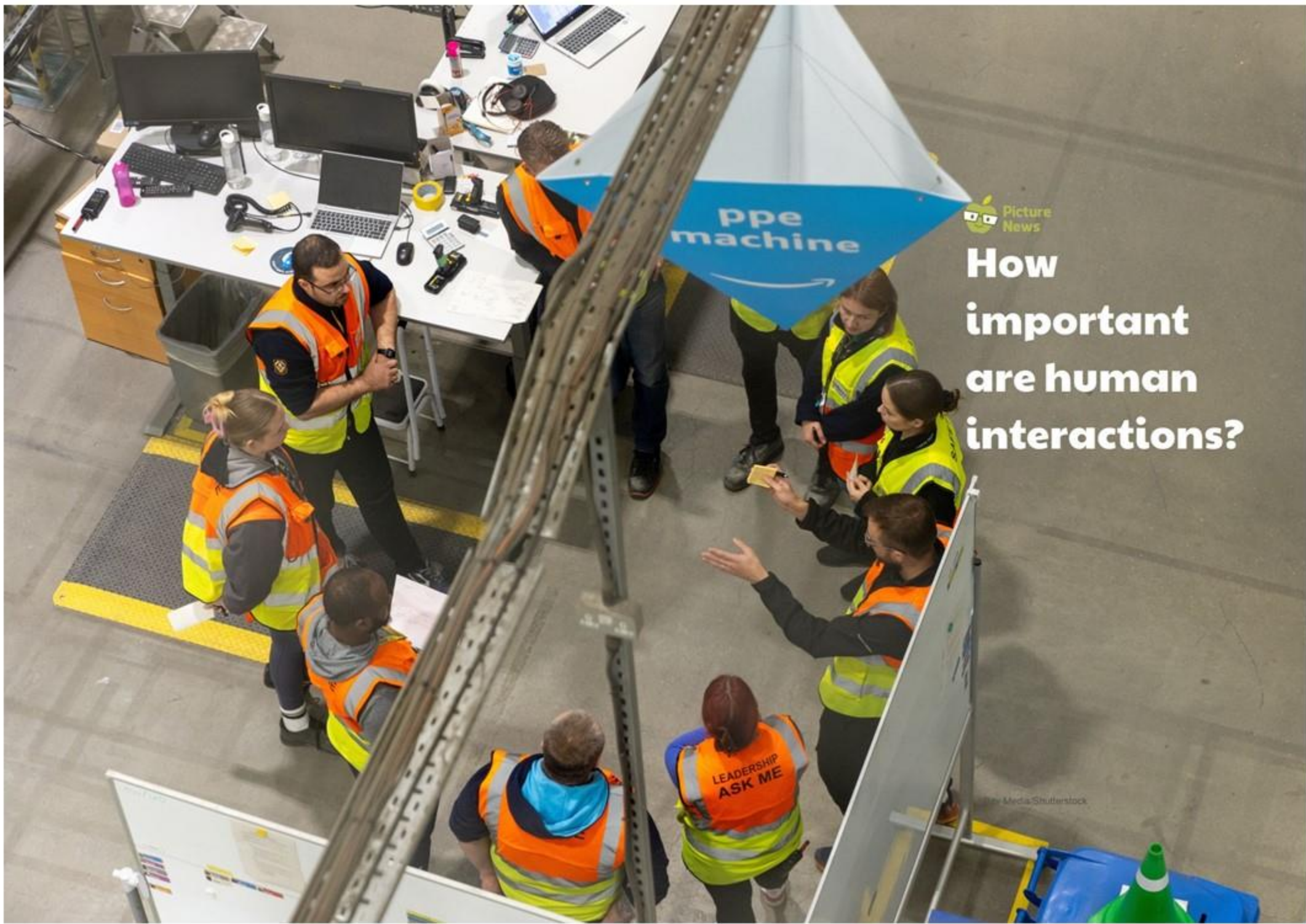


What's happening in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

7th - 13th October 2024



Picture News

How important are human interactions?

Media-Shutterstock



Let's look at this week's story

E-commerce company, Amazon, has told all staff they need to return to the office five days a week, ending the option to work from home. In a message to all workers, Chief Executive Andy Jassy said the company expected everyone to be in the office full time (apart from some exceptions) from 2nd January 2025. Amazon's new policy is very different from the UK government's approach, which is to make flexible working a right for employees, as promised in a new law proposal due to be announced later this year.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



How does it make me feel?



sad

despondent
disconsolate
dismal
doleful
downhearted
forlorn
gloomy
melancholic
miserable
woeful
wretched

angry

aggrieved
annoyed
discontented
disgruntled
distressed
exasperated
frustrated
indignant
offended
outraged
resentful
vexed

happy

beaming
buoyant
cheery
contented
delighted
enraptured
gleeful
glowing
joyful

confused

addled
baffled
bemused
bewildered
disorientated
indistinct
muddled
mystified
perplexed
puzzled

excited

animated
elevated
enlivened
enthusiastic
exhilarated
exuberant
thrilled

worried

agitated
anxious
apprehensive
concerned
disquieted
distraught
distressed
disturbed
fretful
perturbed
troubled
uneasy

overwhelmed

engulfed
inundated
overburdened
overloaded
saturated
submerged
swamped

afraid

alarmed
apprehensive
daunted
fearful
frantic
horrified
petrified
terrified

guilty

ashamed
compunctious
contrite
culpable
penitent
responsible
rueful

jealous

bitter
covetous
desirous
envious
envying
resentful
wary

thankful

appreciative
grateful
gratified
indebted
obliged
relieved

shocked

astonished
astounded
disconcerted
distressed
dumbfounded
horrified
staggered
startled
stunned
surprised

disgusted

affronted
appalled
horrified
repelled
repulsed
revolted
sickened

inspired

activated
encouraged
exhilarated
galvanised
influenced
motivated

embarrassed

ashamed
awkward
chagrined
demeaned
discomposd
humiliated
self-conscious
uncomfortable
uneasy
unsettled

interested

absorbed
captivated
curious
engaged
enthralled
fascinated
gripped
intrigued
riveted

This week's story looks at events related to ...



Amazon was founded by Jeff Bezos from his garage in Bellevue, Washington.





Read through the information below about Amazon's decision to end working from home.

What are Amazon's new rules?

Workers at Amazon will be expected to be in the office, or their normal place of work, during all working hours, five days a week. In certain circumstances, such as caring for a sick child or a household emergency, they may work elsewhere.

Before this, workers were expected to be at their place of work a minimum of two days per week.

What is flexible working?

Flexible working is an arrangement allowing people to choose when and where they complete their work. They may wish to work in the office or somewhere remotely, such as at home.

Is working together in person always better?



Pictured: Andy Jassy.
Source: Amazon.com.



I think you do your best work when you're happy at home. I do think making sure work reflects the realities of many of our lives today is really important.

UK Business Secretary, Jonathan Reynolds.



The advantages of being together in the office are significant... in summary, we've observed that it's easier for our teammates to learn, model, practice, and strengthen our culture... teaching and learning from one another are more seamless; and, teams tend to be better connected to one another.

Amazon Chief Executive, Andy Jassy.



Pictured: Jonathan Reynolds.
Source: Stefan Rousseau.

Who do you think benefits from this decision and who do you think may find the change difficult? Overall, do you think Amazon's decision is a good one?



Look at the resource below.
Discuss what you think might be happening in each picture.



**How are the people interacting with one another?
What might they be saying, thinking or feeling?**



Examples of different types of flexible working

Job sharing

Two people share one job and split the hours.

Part time

Working fewer hours/days than full time.

Compressed hours

Working full-time hours but over fewer days.

Flexitime

Working 'core' hours each day e.g., 10am – 4pm, but choosing when to start and end work.

Remote working and working from home

Not working in the usual workplace. This can be anywhere, including home.

Hybrid working

Combining remote working with working in the usual workplace.

Annualised hours

Working a set number of hours per year but having some flexibility about when.

Read the comments people have made about flexible working. Which do you think are points for flexible working and which are points against it?



It can be really hard to find a time for everyone to meet, as people are in at different times and on different days.

Remy

Working remotely can get lonely at times and I have no team around me to 'spark' ideas from.

Isabella

I moved home but didn't move jobs!

Amara



A joiner working flexitime.

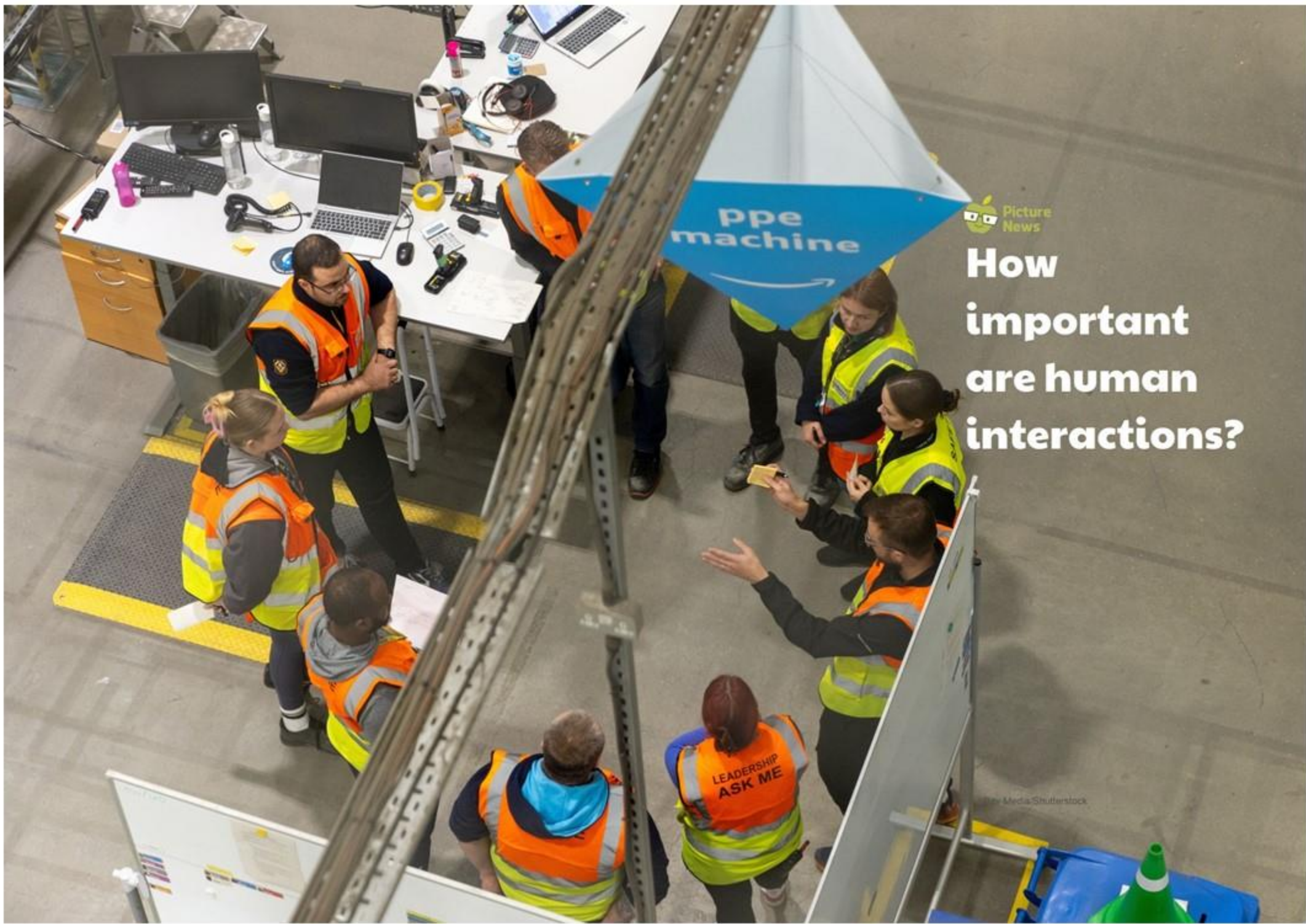
I have a job share. We work really well together and because we have different strengths and skills, we both bring a great deal to our role. It also means I can spend time with my young children on the days I am not working.

David



A graphic designer working from home.

**Were you aware there are so many different types of flexible working?
Do you think you would choose to work flexibly? Why?**



Picture News

How important are human interactions?

Media-Shutterstock

Reflection



Spending time and interacting with others is an important part of life, both when we are working and in our leisure time. Depending on the activity, there will be times we achieve more with others, and times we do better independently.





Individual Liberty

At the moment, all employees have the right to request flexible working. Being aware of our rights and freedoms in the workplace can provide us with balance, fulfilment and enjoyment.

Protected Characteristics



Companies, like Amazon, have many employees. The law protects all employees from being treated unfairly at work.



Sex



Sexual Orientation



Age



Disability



Gender Reassignment



Marriage and Civil Partnership



Pregnancy and Maternity



Race



Religion or Belief



UN Rights of the Child



Children have the right to be protected from doing work that is dangerous or bad for their education, health or development. If children work, they have the right to be safe and paid fairly.



Useful vocabulary



Attend

Go to or be present at a place or event.

Can you think of any jobs that need people to **attend** the place of work?

Flexible

Being able to adjust to new changes or situations.

Flexible working is an arrangement allowing people to choose when and where they complete their work.

Leisure

Free time to do the things you enjoy, like reading, playing or watching TV.

Spending time and interacting with others is an important part of life, both when we are working and in our **leisure** time.

Policy

A set of rules or guidelines that a company or person can use to help make decisions and take actions.

Amazon's new **policy** is very different from the UK government's approach.

Proposal

Ideas or plans that someone suggests to others for approval or agreement to move forward with a project, event, or action.

The UK government's approach [...] is to make flexible working a right for employees, as promised in a new law **proposal** due to be announced later this year.

Remotely

Doing something from a distance or a different location, often using computers or phones to stay connected.

They may wish to work in the office or somewhere **remotely**, such as at home.

Can you use them in your writing this week?

A Purr-fect Helper!

Meet Cilla, a very special cat, who lives at a primary school in Warwickshire! Cilla first showed up as a stray seven years ago, visiting the school every day. The students and staff loved her so much that they made her part of the school family! Cilla spends her time comforting students, especially those feeling nervous before big tests. She loves wandering into classrooms and sitting with children who need a cuddle. 'She just seems to know when a child needs her,' said headteacher Ms Taylor. Cilla's kindness hasn't gone unnoticed—she recently won the *Connected Cat* award at the Cat of the Year Awards! She's



Pictured: Cilla relaxing in the library.
Source: @OutwoodsCat on X.

also famous online, with 26,000 followers on X (formerly Twitter). Plus, she helped raise £5,000 for the school's library! With six cozy beds around the school, including two in the library, Cilla lives a life of luxury while doing her important job of comforting students.

Pumpkin Power

Aleksandr Chusov has grown a record-breaking pumpkin in Russia, weighing an enormous 817kg! The giant pumpkin was crowned the largest in Russian history after a special weigh-in at the Moscow State University Botanical Garden. Aleksandr, who is 28 years old, won the top prize at the Autumn Festival of Vegetables. He explained how he grew the pumpkin saying, 'You select the biggest pumpkins and cross them with other giant pumpkins. Then, with the right care, like proper watering, fertilising, and planting at the

right time, they just get bigger and bigger!' The massive pumpkin is now famous, and Aleksandr is proud of his amazing gardening skills. What a pumpkin!

Have you spotted any pumpkins? Were they giant?



Pictured: Giant pumpkins.
Source: Canva.

Will classrooms of the future be teacherless?



New technology is being invented all the time, I don't think we can rule out teacherless classrooms. Betsy, 10

Disney Decoration!

A uniquely decorated home has gone viral after it was put up for sale by its Disney superfan owner! The estate agents in charge of selling the home posted that their advertisement had gone global: 'Our property listing has captured the world's attention, and we couldn't be more thrilled! 🇬🇧' The Disney-themed home features huge murals of famous characters, such as Aladdin, Mary Poppins and Peter Pan. The property is in the Welsh seaside



Pictured: The interior of the Disney themed house.

Source: Elwy Estate Agents on Facebook.

town of Rhyl, in Denbighshire. Marti Anderson-Bryan from Elwy Estates explained, 'The current homeowner, she's a real massive Disney fan. She's been to Disney over twenty times, and she's actually lived in that house her whole life. Lots of people are just obviously really curious just to see the artwork because obviously, people have just never seen anything like it before!'

Do you think you would like to live in this house?

Can you think of a theme you would like in your home?



Hunt for Happiness

Michael Zervos has announced that he has reached the halfway mark on his mission to travel to every country in the world. He is aiming to do this in the shortest number of days possible. There are 195 countries to go to and he has visited almost 100 so far! He is calling his world-record-breaking attempt, Project Kosmos! He describes his adventure as 'a record-breaking journey of happiness.' As he travels, he is asking the residents of each country the same question: What is the happiest moment of your life? The Greek-American filmmaker is collecting and then publishing the answers and stories that go with them online. He hopes by doing this he will spread happiness and the belief that everyone can be happy, wherever they live in the world, and whoever they are!



Pictured: Teacher and students with a globe.
Source: Canva.

'I'm amazed I'm on schedule,' Michael admitted, 'Occasionally it means maybe spending a day less in a certain place, but I've tried to make the most out of those situations.' Describing the experience so far, he added, 'It's changed me in ways that I can't really articulate!'

Are there any countries that you would like to travel to?

What is the happiest moment of your life?

Will classrooms of the future be teacherless?



I think that we will always need human teachers as they will always be better at understanding their class.

Hamsa

Let us know what you think about this week's news



picture-news.co.uk/discuss



help@picture-news.co.uk



[@HelpPicture](https://twitter.com/HelpPicture)

TAKEHOME

7th - 13th
October



In the news this week

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Things to talk about at home ...

- > Do you believe Amazon's decision is fair? Talk to someone at home, do they agree?
- > Do you think you might prefer working from home, or from a workplace with others? Why?

How important are human interactions?



Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

