

Year 2



Great Fire of London Knowledge Organiser

Key Vocabulary

Bakery – a place that makes bread, cakes etc.
Diary – a book that people write about their lives in.
Eyewitness – a person who has seen something and can give a description of it.
Firebreak – a gap that stops a fire spreading to nearby buildings.
Fire hooks – a giant hook used to pull down houses.
Flammable – when something burns easily.
Leather bucket – leather was used to make buckets before plastic was invented.
London – the capital city of England and the United Kingdom.
Pudding Lane – the street where the fire started.
St. Paul's Cathedral – A very large church in London which burnt down during the fire. A new St. Paul's Cathedral was built after the fire.
Tower of London – where King Charles II lived in 1666. The fire was stopped just before it reached the palace.



Key Events and Facts

When and where did the fire start?

The fire started on Sunday 2nd September 1666 in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane. It lasted for 5 days.



Why did the fire spread so quickly?

The weather was hot and it hadn't rained for months. Houses in London were mainly built from wood and straw which is flammable, especially when it is very dry. The houses were very close together, so fire could easily spread. Strong winds were blowing, which helped the flames to spread.

How did people try to put the fire out?

There was no fire brigade so ordinary people used leather buckets and water squirts to try to put the fire out but these did not work. Later in the week, King Charles II ordered buildings to be pulled down to stop the flames from spreading.



How and when was the fire put out?

By Thursday 6th September, the wind had died down so people were able to put out the flames.

How many people died?

6 people died as a result of the fire.

What happened after the fire?

13,200 houses were destroyed by the fire and 70,000 people were left homeless. Many left London to live elsewhere and some slept in tents. An organised fire brigade was established and water engines were designed that gave a continuous stream of water when pumped.

Key People



Samuel Pepys

Samuel Pepys lived in London during the Great Fire of London and wrote about it in his diary.



Thomas Farriner

Thomas Farriner is the owner of the bakery on Pudding Lane where the fire started



King Charles II

King Charles II was the King of England in 1666. After the fire he said that houses must be built further apart and build from stone not wood.

Timeline of Events

Monday 3rd September 1666

The fire gets very close to the Tower of London.

Tuesday 4th September 1666

St Paul's Cathedral is destroyed by the fire.

Sunday 2nd September 1666

The fire starts at 1 a.m.

Mid-morning: Samuel Pepys starts to write about the fire in his **diary**.

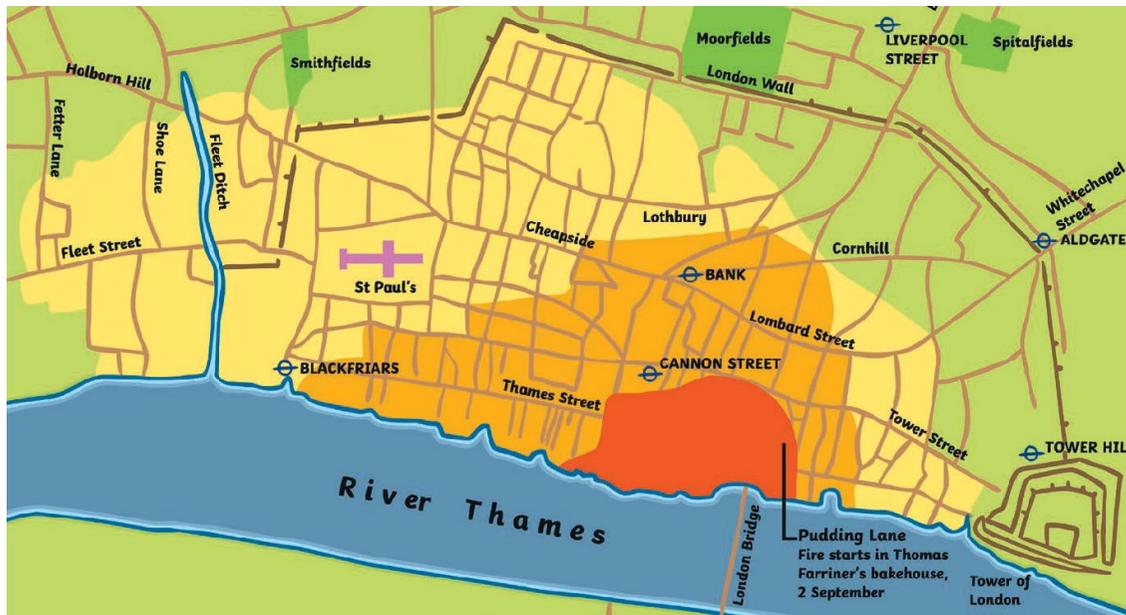
Wednesday 5th September 1666

The wind dies down and the fire spreads more slowly.

Thursday 6th September 1666

The fire is finally put out.

Thousands of people are left homeless.



Spread of the Fire

- Sunday 2nd September 1666
- Monday 3rd September 1666
- Tuesday and Wednesday 4-5th September 1666

Useful Websites

The Great Fire of London Game – enjoy telling the story of the Great Fire of London through different characters.

<http://www.fireoflondon.org.uk/game/>

CBBC Newsround – guide to The Great Fire of London

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/37222884>

Video BBC Magic Grandad: Samuel Pepys Great Fire of London (Please note that YouTube videos may contain adverts).

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VarSSAwimJ&feature=emb_logo

CBeebies – Isabell's escape from the Great Fire of London – listen to the story of one girl's experience of the Great Fire of London in this radio podcast.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/radio/my-story-isabell-great-fire>

Then try this quiz for fun:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/puzzles/my-story-fire-of-london-quiz>