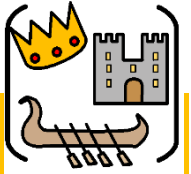


## Year 2



### Great Fire of London Knowledge Organiser

**Enquiry Question: What impact has the Great Fire of London had?**

#### 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.  
**Monument** – built to commemorate the great fire and celebrate rebuilding of the city. It is 202ft high and 202ft from where the fire started in Pudding Lane.  
**Plague** – an infectious disease which spread across parts of Europe (including London) during 1665/1666  
**Pudding Lane** – the street where the fire started.  
**River Thames** – a large river in England that goes through London (capital city of England).  
**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.  
**Town Crier** – A person who informs the townspeople of the latest news, usually by shouting in the streets and using a hand bell.



#### 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.



##### 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 with fire hooks to stop the flames from spreading.



##### 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 are flammable, especially when it is very dry. The houses were built very close together, so fire could easily spread. Strong winds were blowing, which helped the flames to spread.

##### How many people died?

There were 6 verified deaths as a result of the fire. However, it is questioned whether the death of poor and middle-class people were recorded.

According to records, the first person to die in the Great Fire was a maid employed by Thomas Farriner.

##### When was the fire put out?

The fire burned for 4 days. As the wind died down and changed direction the fire became under control and was finally put out.



##### 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.

#### Significant Individuals



**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 built 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**.

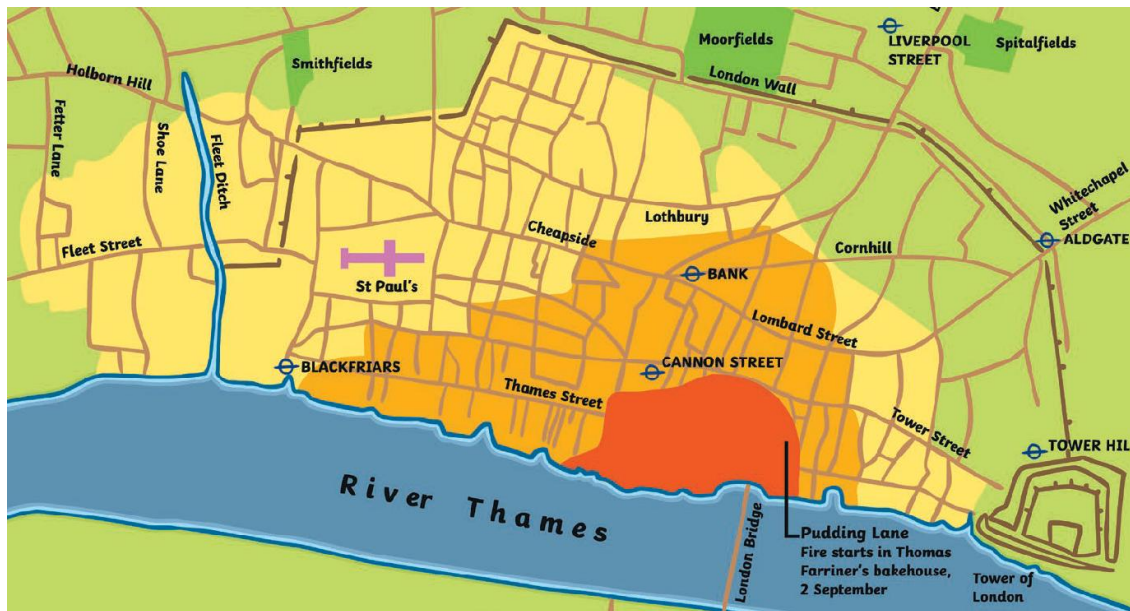
**Wednesday 5th September 1666**

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 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1666
- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1666
- Tuesday and Wednesday 4-5<sup>th</sup> 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=VarSSAwimU&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VarSSAwimU&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.

[My Story - Isabell's Escape From The Great Fire Of London - BBC Sounds](#)

**Then try this quiz for fun:**

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