



# Year 2 History: The Great Fire of London

(event beyond living memory that is significant nationally)

## Prior Learning

- We can find out about things that happened in the past by looking at pictures or objects from that time. (Y1)
- London is the capital city of England. (Y1)
- Queen Victoria lived a long time ago – over 100 years ago. (Y1)
- Queen Elizabeth I lived an even longer time ago – over 400 years ago. (Y1)
- Firefighters are people who help us in a fire emergency. (Rec)

## Sticky Knowledge

- The fire started on Sunday 2nd September 1666 in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane.
- In 1666, the buildings in London were made of wood and straw and they were very close together, making it easy for the flames to spread.
- It had also been a dry summer, so the buildings were dry.
- Strong winds were blowing, which helped the flames to spread.
- In those days, there was no real fire brigade so 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.
- By Thursday 6th September 1666, the wind had died down. This meant that people were able to put out the flames.
- We know so much about the Great Fire of London because a man named Samuel Pepys wrote about it in his diary.
- Only 6 people were recorded to have been killed by the huge fire.



## Vocabulary

bakery	A place in which bread and cakes are made or sold .
diary	a book in which someone keeps a daily record of what has happened.
firebreak	A barrier of some kind use to stop the path of a fire.
fire brigade	A group of people trained to put out fires. Today, we call for their help by dialling 999.
monument	a statue, building, or other structure build to remember an important person or event.
River Thames	The River which runs through the centre of London.
Samuel Pepys	A man famous for writing newspaper articles and diaries, who lived near the Tower of London.
timber	Wood which has been prepared to be used in building.



# Griffe Field Primary School history topics timeline

