

# Year 2 Knowledge Organiser Autumn Term

## Fire! Fire!

### TERMS

### Key Vocabulary

London	Capital city of England/U.K.
City	A very large town, usually with a cathedral.
Pudding Lane	A small street in London.
Fire	Flames that cause heat, light and smoke.
Bakery	Where bread, cakes, cookies etc. are made.
River Thames	A river that flows through London. The longest river in England.
Samuel Pepys	Wrote a diary about the Great Fire of London.
Diary	A book used to keep a daily record of events and experiences.
St. Paul's Cathedral	One of the best known buildings in London, destroyed in 1666.
Destroyed	Damaged or ruined.
Leather bucket	Buckets filled with water, used to try to put the fire out.
Sir Christopher Wren	Designed a monument to celebrate the rebuilding of London.

### COMPARE Past and Present

#### Past:

- Houses built from wood & straw, packed closely together.
- People used leather buckets & water squirts to fight fires.
- Streets were narrow — fire spread quickly between buildings.

#### Present:

- Houses are built from brick with more space between them.
- Professional fire brigades use hoses and fire engines.

### CHRONOLOGY Timeline of the Fire

Sun 2nd Sept 1666

Fire broke out in a bakery on Pudding Lane.

Mon 3rd Sept 1666

Fire continued to spread through the city.

Tues 4th Sept 1666

St. Paul's Cathedral caught fire.

Wed 5th Sept 1666

Wind dropped so fire slowed down.

Thurs 6th Sept 1666

Fire was finally put out. Only 6 people lost their lives.

### SOURCES How We Know About the Fire

#### From:

- Samuel Pepys' diary, written at the time of the fire.
- Paintings & engravings by artists who were alive in 1666.
- Newspaper reports and letters written during the fire.
- The Monument in Pudding Lane, built to remember the fire.
- The plaque marking the site of the bakery where it started.

*Pudding Lane sign*



*The Great Fire of London, 1666 (oil painting)*



*The Monument*

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### Extra Facts

- The Great Fire of London happened between 2–6 September 1666.
- Before the fire there had been a drought for 10 months, so London was very dry.
- People whose homes burned down lived in tents in the fields around London while buildings were rebuilt.
- When rebuilt, many houses were made with bricks and not built so close together.

### QUESTIONS Thinking Like a Historian

- When and where did the Great Fire of London start?
- Why did the fire spread so quickly in 1666?
- How do we know about the Great Fire of London?
- Who was Samuel Pepys and why is his diary important?
- How did the rebuilding of London change the city?
- Why is the Monument to the Great Fire still important today?

### KEY FACTS What We Know

- The Great Fire began in a bakery in Pudding Lane on Sunday 2nd September 1666.
- In 1666 many houses were made from wood and straw which burned easily, and were built very close together.
- Samuel Pepys wrote about the fire in his diary. He was born in London on 23rd February 1633 and died in 1703.
- People used leather buckets, metal hooks and water squirts to try to fight the fire.
- Artists who were alive in 1666 painted pictures of the fire — we know what it looked like because of these paintings.
- Only around 6 people are recorded to have died, but thousands of homes were destroyed.
- After the fire, houses were rebuilt with bricks and more space between them.
- Sir Christopher Wren designed a tall monument in Pudding Lane which still stands in London today.



*The Great Fire of London — contemporary engraving*



*Bakery plaque, Pudding Lane*



*People fleeing the fire, 1666*



*Samuel Pepys*



*The Monument, London*