History

Year 2 - Autumn 2

The Great Fire of London

Learning enquiry question: Why did the Great Fire of London cause so much destruction?



Where did the fire start?

It started in a bakery on Pudding Lane on 2nd September 1666.



Why did it spread?

It hadn't rained for months which meant the city of London was very dry! Many houses were built from wood and were close together. There was also no fire brigade!



How was the fire fought?

People used leather buckets and filled them with water to pour over the flames. They also used fire hooks and gunpower to make fire breaks.

How was the fire stopped?

After 4 days, the windy weather stopped and changed direction. This meant the fire could finally be put out!

Fun fact

Some people buried their belongings underground to keep them safe.

Key people



- Thomas Farriner - the fire started in his bakery.



- Samuel Pepys - recorded the events of the fire in his diary



- King Charles II - the king at the time. After the f he ordered houses to be built further apart.

Key Vocabulary:

Primary source– A first hand account or piece or an object created at the time of the event.

Secondary sources– does not give original information. It explains or discusses information from primary sources.

Significant–meaningful and important.

Cathedral–A very large church

Medieval–The period of history from 500 AD to 1500 AD.

Eyewitness–someone who saw something and gave a description.

Samuel Pepys facts

- Survived the Great Plague of 1665.
- Saw the Great Fire of London in 1666.
- We know lots about these two events from his diary.

Sunday 2nd September 1666	Monday 3rd September 1666	Tuesday 4th September 1666	Wednesday 5th September 1666	Thursday 6th September 1666
The fire starts at 1am. Samuel Pepys starts his diary.	The fire approaches the Tower of London.	St Paul's Cathedral is destroyed by the fire.	The wind dies down and the fire starts to spread more slowly.	The fire is extinguished. Many people are left homeless.