

Year 2. Knowledge Organiser – The Great Fire of London

Key Vocabulary

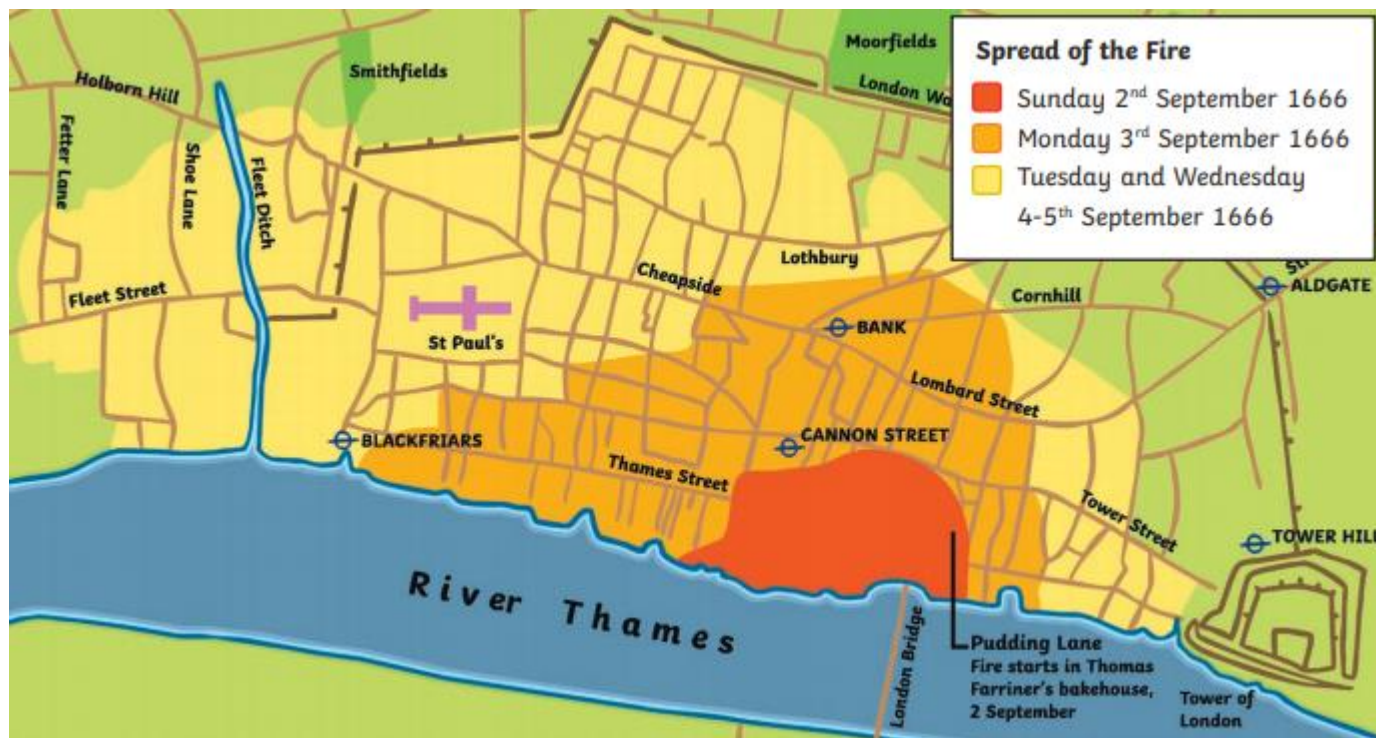
douse	to throw liquid over something
St Paul's Cathedral	a very large church in London
water squirt	like a very large syringe made of brass used to suck water up
Samuel Pepys	he lived in London during the Great Fire and worked for the government
diary	a book that people write about their lives in
King Charles II	king of England, Scotland, and Ireland

When and where did the fire start?

The fire started on Sunday 2nd September 1666 in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane.

Why did the fire start?

The fire started because Thomas Farriner forgot to douse the fire in his bakery ovens.



This map shows how far the fire spread from Thomas Farriner's bakery.

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Why did the fire spread so quickly?

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. Also, **strong winds** were blowing, which helped the flames to spread.



St Paul's Cathedral was badly damaged by the fire. A new St Paul's Cathedral was built after the fire.

Who was Samuel Pepys?

In his diary, Samuel Pepys wrote all about what happened during the Great Fire of London. This is why we know so much about the fire today!



When and How did people try to put out the fire?

People used leather buckets and water squirts to try to put the fire out but these did not work very well.



King Charles II ordered buildings to be pulled down to stop the flames from spreading.



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