



St John Fisher RC Primary School

Year 2 Knowledge Organiser – Spring Term One – History

What we will be learning

I Know:

Lesson 2

- The Diary of Samuel Pepys is evidence of the Great Fire of London
- The Great Fire of London started in 1666 in a bakery on Pudding Lane because the fires were not put out properly

Lesson 3

- The fire spread so quickly because the buildings in London were made out of wood and straw and they were very close together
- Strong winds were blowing, which helped the flames to spread

Lesson 4

- The king made a new law after the fire that buildings had to be made from brick or stone

Lesson 5

- I can recognise London on photographs before and after the fire

Key Facts to Remember about The Great Fire of London

The Great Fire caused devastation to London.

Most of what we know about the fire is written in the diary of Samuel Pepys.

The fire spread due to the wind and the fact that the houses were made from wood and were built very close together.

Following the fire, the City of London was rebuilt; streets were made wider, buildings were made from brick and stone and buildings like St Pauls was redesigned by the famous architect Sir Christopher Wren.



Key Vocabulary

primary source	a document or object that provides original information about a topic or event from a person or thing that was present at the time	bakery	a place where bread and cakes are made or sold.
secondary source	a document, image, object, or text that analyses, interprets, or re-states a primary source	diary	a book in which one keeps a daily record of events and experiences

Historical Sources and Evidence

To find out about the past we could read books, search the internet, or visit a museum.

To find out what's happening in the world today we could read newspapers or visit websites. We can find out information because people write down their life stories in diaries or letters.

Samuel Pepys's Diary

This is a **primary source**.

It tells us about the life of a person living at the time of the Great Fire, as well as providing information about the events of the fire itself and what people did, said, and felt during the fire.

A disadvantage of using a diary like this as a primary source is that it only tells one person's perspective.

Sunday 2nd September

Jane called us up about three in the morning, to tell us of a great fire they saw in the city. So I rose and slipped on my nightgown, and went to the window, and thought it to be Market Lane, but, being unused to such fires as followed, I thought it was far enough off; and so went to bed again to sleep.

By and by Jane comes and tells me that she hears that above 300 houses have been burned down tonight and this it is now burning down all Fish Street by London Bridge. So I walked to the Tower and I did see the house at the end of the bridge all on fire and an infinite great fire on the other side, the end of the bridge. So down, with my heart full of trouble, to the Lieutenant of the Tower, who tells me that it begun this morning in the King's baker's house in Pudding Lane and that it had burned.

Key Events

The fire started on Sunday 2nd September 1666 in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane. It is thought that the fires used for baking were not put out properly.	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.	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, the wind had died down. This meant that people were able to put out the flames.	After the fire, wooden buildings were replaced with buildings made from brick or stone. Much of the city was redesigned by Sir Christopher Wren, who rebuilt St Paul's with a dome instead of a steeple. The first fire brigades were formed.
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Timeline

Sunday 2 nd September 1666	Monday 3 rd September 1666	Tuesday 4 th September 1666	Wednesday 5 th September 1666	Thursday 6 th September 1666
The fire started at Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane.	The fire gets very close to the Tower of London.	St Paul's Cathedral is destroyed by the fire.	The wind dies down and the fire spreads more slowly.	The fire is finally put out. Thousands of people are homeless.