

Hemingbrough History Curriculum

Theme: The Fire of London

Phase: Year 2

Year Group: Key Stage 1

Strand: Historical events

1. When and where did the fire start?

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



4. How did people try to put the fire out?

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.

2. Why did the fire start?

The fires used for baking were not put out properly.

3. Why did the fire spread so quickly?

In 1666, the buildings in London were made of wood and straw and were close together, making it easy for the flames to spread. It had also been a dry summer. Strong winds were blowing, which helped the flames to spread.

5. How and when was the fire actually put out?

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

Key Vocabulary

bakery	A place that makes bread, cakes, etc.
St Paul's Cathedral	A very large church in London. A new St Paul's Cathedral was built after the fire.
diary	A book that people write about their lives in.
firebreak	A gap that stops a fire spreading to nearby buildings.

Monday 3rd September 1666

The fire gets very close to the Tower of London.

Tuesday 4th September 1666

St Paul's Cathedral is destroyed by the fire.

Timeline of Events

Sunday 2nd September 1666

The fire starts at 1 a.m.
Mid-morning: Samuel Pepys starts to write about the fire in his **diary**.

Wednesday 5th September 1666

The wind dies down and the fire spreads more slowly.

Thursday 6th September 1666

The fire is finally put out.
Thousands of people are left homeless.