| History | **Why was the Great Fire of London such an important event?** | Year 1/2 |
|---|---|---|

## Key Vocabulary

| WORD | DEFINITION |
|---|---|
| Bakery | A place where bread and cakes are made and sold. |
| Diary | A book in which people write about their lives. |
| Eye witness | A person who has seen something happen and can give a description of it. |
| Firebreak | Buildings are destroyed to make a break so the fire can't spread. |
| Fire hook | Giant hooks used to pull houses down. |
| Flammable | Something that burns easily. |
| River Thames | The river that runs through London. |
| Thatched roof | A roof made of dry vegetation (straw and reeds). |

## Key Knowledge/events and facts

- The fire started on Sunday 2nd September 1666 in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane.
- London was hot and dry. The houses were made from wood and straw and were flammable. The houses were very close together so the fire spread easily. Strong winds also helped spread the flames.
- There was no fire brigade. People had to use leather buckets and water squirts to try and put the fire out.
- King Charles 11 ordered buildings to be pulled down (using gunpowder) to make a firebreak. This stopped the flames from spreading.
- The fire was finally put out on Thursday 6th September 1666.
- Over 13,000 houses were destroyed by the fire. 70,000 people were left homeless.
- St Paul's Cathedral was destroyed in the fire.
- After the fire, King Charles said that houses must be built further apart and built from stone not wood.
- The Monument was built to remind us of the Great Fire.

## Key People

**Samuel Pepys**



Samuel Pepys lived in London during the Great Fire of London and wrote about it in his diary.




Thomas Farriner was the owner of the bakery on Pudding Lane where the fire started.




King Charles II was the King of England in 1666. After the fire he said that houses must be built further apart and built from stone not wood.



St Paul's Cathedral





The Monument

Leather bucket





Fire hook

## Timeline

| Sunday September 2nd 1666 | Monday September 3rd 1666 | Tuesday September 4th 1666 | Wednesday September 5th 1666 | Thursday September 6th 1666 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A fire starts in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane in the middle of the night. | People carry their possessions to safety using boats on the River Thames | The firemen try to put the fire out using buckets of water and then by pulling down houses with fire hooks. | The fire starts to burn more slowly as the wind dies down. | The Fire of London finally stops but thousands of people are left homeless |