

Timeline of Events

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.

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

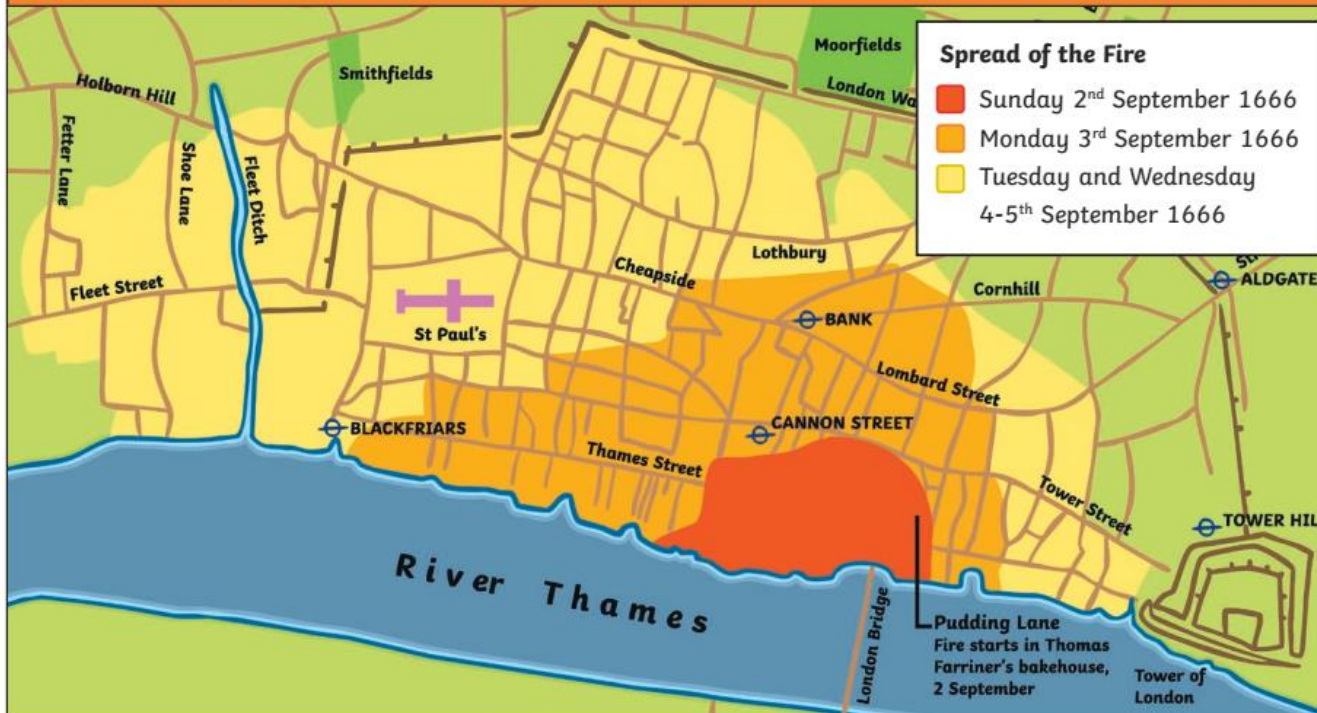
The wind dies down and the fire spreads more slowly.

Thursday 6th September 1666

The fire is finally put out.

Thousands of people are left homeless.

Key Knowledge



leather water bucket



St Paul's Cathedral



Tower of London






axe



water squirt



fire hook

Key People	
	Thomas Farriner An ember from one of Thomas' bakery ovens ignited some nearby firewood. The fire quickly spread around the room and to nearby buildings.
	Samuel Pepys One of the ways we know about the fire is because people wrote about it in their own personal diary.
	King Charles II Charles II was the King of England in 1666. After the fire, he made a decree that houses must be built further apart and built from stone not timber.

Key Questions and Facts	
When and where did the fire start?	The fire of London started in a bakery in Pudding Lane on 2 nd September 1666.
Why did the fire spread?	It hadn't rained for months so the city was very dry. In 1666, lots of people had houses made from wood which burns easily. Houses were built too close together and there was no organised fire brigade.
How did they fight the fire?	They used leather buckets and squirts filled with water, axes, fire-hooks and gunpowder to make fire-breaks.
How did the fire stop?	The fire burned for 4 days. As the wind died down and changed direction the fire became under control and was finally put out.
How many people died?	6 people died as a result of the fire. Thomas Farriner's maid was the first person to die because she was too scared to jump from the burning building.
What happened after the fire?	13,200 houses were destroyed by the fire and 70,000 people were left homeless. Many left London to live elsewhere and some slept in tents.



Pudding Lane : the street on which the bakery was, where the fire started.

St Paul's Cathedral : a famous church which burnt down during the fire. It was rebuilt and still exists today.

Tower of London : where the king lived in 1666. It did not catch fire because the fire was stopped just before it reached the palace.

Bakery : a shop where bread and cakes are made.

Oven : where food is cooked. Today we use gas or electricity to heat ovens but in 1666 they burnt wood to heat the oven.

Flammable : when something burns easily.

Eyewitness : a person who saw an event with their own eyes and can therefore describe it.

Leather bucket : leather is the material that buckets were made from before plastic was invented.

Fire Hooks : giant hooks used to pull houses down.

Fire Breaks : when buildings are destroyed on purpose to make a gap (break) so the fire can't spread to the next building.