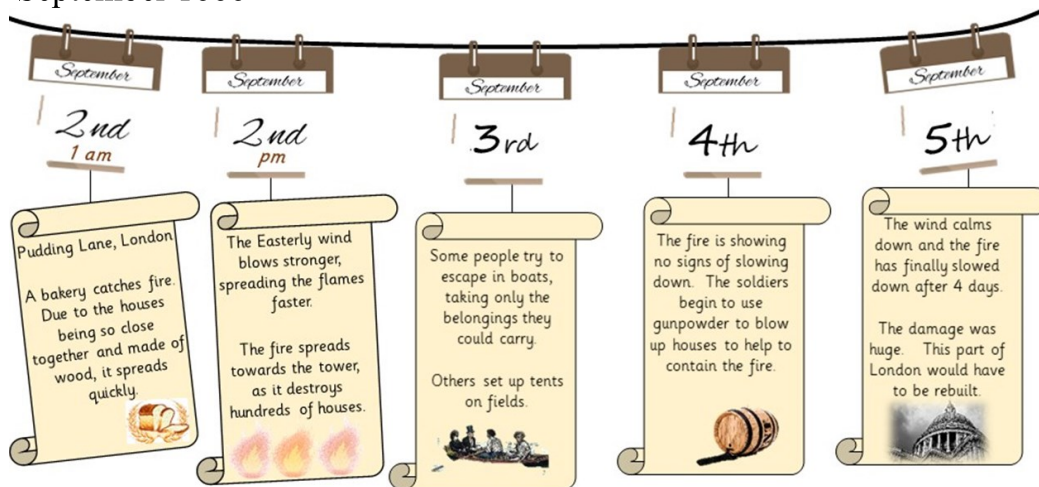


THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

Year 2

History

September 1666



Key Vocabulary

Burning—on fire.

Bakery—a place where bread and cakes are made.

Cart—a strong vehicle with wheels pulled by a horse.

Diary—a book to keep a daily record of events or experiences.

Destroyed—to end the existence of something.

Damaged—when something is harmed.

Escape—break free from danger or containment.

Monument—a statue or structure built to commemorate a special person or event.

Narrow—small width, close together.

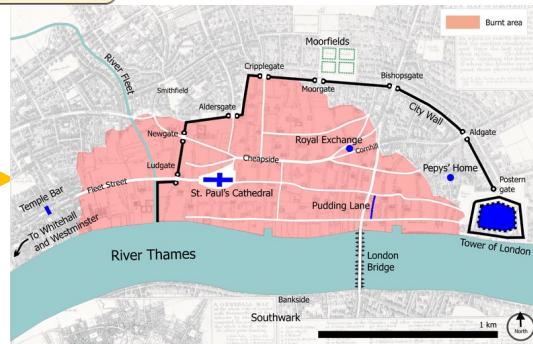
Sound the alarm—to warn of danger.

Thatched roof—a roof made out of natural materials such as straw.

Important Places

London—the fire spread across London and lasted for 4 days. In that time, it destroyed 13,000 houses, 87 churches, St Paul's Cathedral and most of the government buildings. The fire destroyed 70,000 people's homes (at this time, around 80,000 people lived in London).

Pudding Lane—the fire started at Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane.



Samuel Pepys

Samuel Pepys witnessed the Great Fire of London and kept a diary about what happened. We know a lot about the events because of this.

How did this happen?

There were a number of reasons why the fire spread so rapidly and destroyed so many buildings. London had experienced a hot, dry summer so all the houses and streets were very dry. The houses were made out of wood and straw so they burnt easily. The streets were very narrow and houses were very close together which allowed the fire to spread quicker. There was also a strong wind which caused the fire to spread further.