

History:

Today we are recapping...

The Great Fire of London

The Great Fire of London



The famous 'Great Fire of London' started on Sunday the 2nd of September 1666 in a baker's shop on Pudding Lane. The baker was called Thomas Farriner.



In 1666, most of London's buildings were made from wood.
They were also packed tightly together in narrow rows.



This meant that they burnt very easily and quickly.
The wind also helped carry the fire!



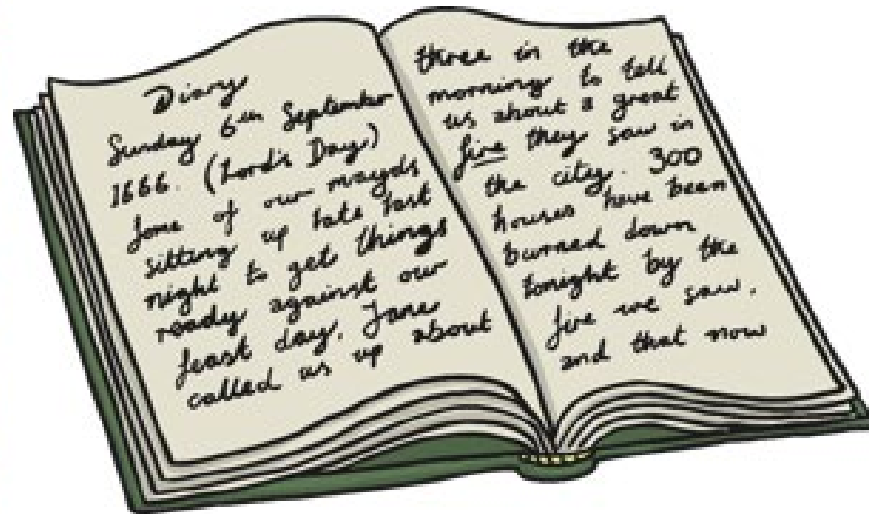
Fire services never used to exist so citizens had to try and put the fire out! They used leather buckets filled with water and axes. They tried their best but were unable to battle the flames.



The water used to try and put out the fire was taken from the River Thames.



Samuel Pepys kept a diary of The Great Fire, as he watched it from across the River Thames. He saw the fire spread west and went to inform the King and his brother, The Duke of York.



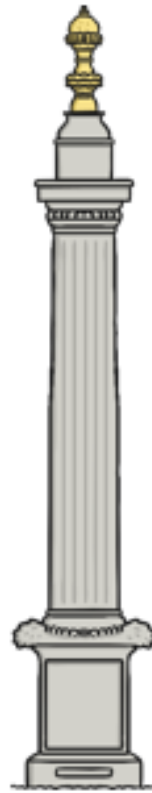
On Wednesday The Duke of York (the future King James II) ordered that houses be destroyed using gunpowder ahead of the fire to stop the fire from spreading even further. This plan succeeded and by Thursday, the fire had been extinguished.



The disaster made London a better and safer city.
Streets were widened and buildings were made stronger, more fireproof
and out of brick instead of wood.
A lot of rats carrying the black plague were also killed off.



The Monument to the Great Fire of London was erected. The monument still remains in place today so that no one will ever forget what happened.



Even the smallest fire can be dangerous within a few minutes. Make sure you always have a fire escape planned. If a fire starts, stay calm and leave immediately.



Use your senses and think about what you might have been able to see, smell, feel and hear if you were there. Write some sentences for each sense.

The Great Fire of London Senses

Hear

See



Feel

Smell