

St Martins Primary School– Knowledge Organiser

History Focus	The Great Fire of London	Year 2	Autumn 2
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When? (Key Knowledge)	
2nd September 1666:	1am – Fire begins. 3am – The Lord Mayor checks the fire but goes back to bed. 7am – The fire has spread. 11am – The mayor told to pull houses down after the King is told of the fire by Samuel Pepys.
3rd September 1666:	Government order fire posts to be set up. A group of school boys successfully hold back the fire. Midday – The fire can be seen from Oxford (60 miles away).
4th September 1666:	The fire reaches its peak. The fire spreads from the temple in the west to the Tower of London in the east (where gunpowder is used to blow up houses in order to stop the fire reaching the tower). St Paul's Cathedral is destroyed. 11pm – The wind begins to die down.
5th September 1666:	Wind changes direction and the fire is blown towards the River Thames. Most of the fires are put out.
6th September 1666	The final fires are extinguished.

Samuel Pepys
He lived in London at the time of the Great Fire and wrote all about it in his diary. His eyewitness account is the source of our knowledge about the Great Fire and other key events in English history such as the Plague and King Charles II coronation.

What? (Key vocab)	
Vocabulary	Definition
Bakery	A place where bread or cakes are made and sold.
River Thames	Many people got a boat on the river Thames to escape the fire.
Diary	A person recount of life events.
Eye witness	A person who has seen something and can give a description of it.
Flammable	When something burns easily.
St Pauls Cathedral	A Christian building razed to the ground in the fire and then rebuilt.

