KS1 Thinking like an Historian

The Great Fire of London

Key Knowledge

Autumn 2

The Great Fire of London

- The Great Fire of London happened in 1666.
- The Great Fire of London started in a baker's shop on Pudding Lane.
- King Charles II was the reigning monarch.
- The fire changed how towns were built to keep people safe.
- Samuel Pepys wrote a detailed diary about the Great Fire.

Learning Questions

- Poppy Day: what are memories? What do we remember on Poppy Day / Remembrance Day?
- What happened during the Great Fire of London?
- Where did the Great Fire of London begin and how do we know?
- Why did the fire spread so quickly across London?
- Could more have been done to stop the fire?
- What changed in London after the Great Fire?
- How shall we rebuild London?

Vocabulary



Cathedral Very large church



Diary Book in which people write about things that happen in their life



Evidence Clues used to prove that something happened



Pitch/Tar Thick black sticky liquid that easily catches fire



Plaque Writing to remember where something happened in the past



Squirts Old-fashioned water carrier when you push the handle water shoots out



Thatch Straw used to cover the roofs which easily catches alight



Warehouse Large storehouse

The Great Fire of London – timeline September 1666



2. The fire spread quickly and by 7 o'clock in the morning more than 300 houses had been destroyed



4. The King was told of the fire and he ordered the Mayor to knock down any houses to stop it spreading



6. The fire got worse; many more buildings were destroyed including St. Paul's Cathedral.



8. By night the fire was close to the Tower of London

9. The wind died down and the fire stopped spreading so quickly

Sunday 2nd - morning | **Sunday 2nd** - afternoon | **Monday 3rd** | **Tuesday 4th** | **Wednesday 5th** | **Thursday 6th**

1. The fire started in a bakery in Pudding Lane owned by Thomas Farriner.



3. Some people tried to stop the fire spreading



5. People realized they couldn't stay any longer and escaped on foot and on river barges.



7. They even tried blowing up houses with gunpowder to stop the fire spreading even further



10. By evening all the fires had been put out.

