



What knowledge have we learnt before, what we will learn this year and what will come after?

In Year 1, the children learnt about the lives of some very significant individuals from Christopher Columbus to Neil Armstrong. Understanding why they are important and what they achieved.

The Lives of significant individuals

Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong
1451 – 1506 AD
1930 – 2012 AD

In Year 2, the children will learn about the Great Fire of London from the importance of Samuel Pepys diary to why the fire burned for so long and quickly.

- **The Great Fire of London**
1666 AD

Within the same century, EYFS also learned about **Bonfire Night** and the significance of this and why we still 'celebrate' Bonfire Night today.

Moving forward to 1836, Year 1 already learnt about how homes were different in 1836 compared to today. Why did the houses change? What was significant about this?

- **Changes within living memory**
Houses and Homes in the past.
1836 AD – Present.

ENRICHING THE CURRICULUM

To bring this topic to life, the children will have a visit from the Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue team



about fire safety. The children will explore the equipment they use to fight fires and compare this to the resources available in 1666.

TIMELINE

Children will learn that the Great Fire of London happened one year after the Great Plague. Also, the Great Fire of London started on 2nd September 1666 and lasted for 5 days.



Children will learn about the events leading up to the Great Fire of London happening.



The fire starts at Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane, early Sunday morning.



Houses are pulled down in an attempt to stop the fire spreading, on Sunday evening.



The fire spreads very close to the Tower of London.



St Paul's cathedral is destroyed by the fire.



Not until the Thursday 6th September 1666 the fire is under control.

Samuel Pepy's diary

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.



Key Vocabulary

FIRE BRIGADE – PAST AND PRESENT

Fire Brigade established in 1666



- King Charles established the fire brigade
- Water engine were designed to help with major fires.
- Ordinary people helped with the fire, gathering water from the Thames.

Fire brigade today



- Powerful engine that contains lots of water.
- Ladder attached to reach heights
- Fire fighters have oxygen to use to help put the fires out.

Key people

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.

Sir Christopher Wren



Sir Christopher Wren redesigned London after the Great Fire.

Thomas Farriner



Owner of the bakery where the fire started. An ember from one of Thomas' bakery ovens ignited some nearby firewood. The fire quickly spread around the room and to nearby buildings.

Key questions and answers

When and where did the fire start?

The fire started on Sunday 2nd September 1666 in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane. It lasted for 5 days.

Why did the fire spread so quickly?

The weather was hot and it hadn't rained for months. Houses in London were mainly built from wood and straw. The houses were very close together, so fire could easily spread. Strong winds were blowing, which helped the flames to spread.

How did people try to put the fire out?

There was no fire brigade so ordinary people used leather buckets and water squirts to try to put the fire out but these did not work. Later in the week, King Charles II ordered buildings to be pulled down to stop the flames from spreading.

How and when was the fire put out?

By Thursday 6th September, the wind had died down so people were able to put out the flames by using water from the Thames.

What happened after the fire?

Many left London to live elsewhere and some slept in tents. An organised fire brigade was established and water engines were designed that gave a continuous stream of water when pumped.