Bridgewater Primary School - History - Year 2 - Spring I - The Great Fire of London/Newcastle

How did it spread so quickly?

In 1666, the buildings in London were made of wood and straw and they were very close together, making it easy for the flames to spread. It had also been a dry summer, so buildings were dry. Strong winds were blowing, which also helped the flames to spread.



Key vocabulary

bakery	A place that makes bread, cakes, etc.
St Paul's Cathedral	A very large church in London. A new St Paul's Cathedral was built after the fire.
diary	A book that people write about their lives in.
firebreak	A gap that stops a fire spreading to nearby buildings.

Key People















Great Fire of London Timeline

Monday 3rd September 1666

The fire gets very close to the Tower of London.

Tuesday 4th September 1666

St Paul's Cathedral is destroyed by the fire.

Timeline of Events

Sunday 2nd September 1666

The fire starts at 1 a.m.

Mid-morning: Samuel Pepus starts to write about the fire in his diary.

Wednesday 5th September 1666

The wind dies down and the fire spreads more slowly.

Thursday 6th September 1666

The fire is finally put out.

Thousands of people are left homeless.