

Launch



The children will take part in a Great Fire of London virtual workshop with leaders from One Day Creative. They will experience a blend of drama, movement and role play to bring the Great Fire to life.

What happened to London during the fire of 1666?



Key dates

-Great Fire of London virtual workshop in school on Friday 5th January 2024.
-Great Fire Museum (letter to follow) - Wednesday 7th February 2024.



Topic Overview

As historians, the children will learn about a significant historical event beyond living memory, The Great Fire of London, and a significant person from the past, Samuel Pepys. They will use dates and phrases such as; 1666, centuries and a long time ago. They will learn about the different stages of the fire and find out why it spread so quickly. They will begin to understand why people acted in the way they did as a result of events and consider how it changed fire safety and the way we live today. The children will ask questions about the past such as; What was Tudor London like? Could anyone have stopped the Great Fire from happening? What was left of London? They will find answers to these questions and develop their understanding by looking at pictures, online sources and reading first-hand accounts, such as the diary of Samuel Pepys. They will discuss if this event has been represented in different ways and why this might be.

Key Vocabulary

firefighter
bakery
extinguish
burning
cart
leather
bucket
embers
furnace

Learning Conversations

- * Talk to your child about fire safety in your home. Where is your escape route? What should they do if they find a fire?
- * Samuel Pepys famously wrote a diary about the fire. Have you ever written a diary before? Can you have a go at writing a diary every day for a week?
- * Thomas Farriner was the owner of the bakery where the fire started. Have you ever been to a bakery? What could you buy in there? Can you find a bakery on Wimborne Road? What can you see in the window?

ENQUIRY

The children will ask and answer questions about what life was like before, during and after the fire. They will consider what, if anything, could have prevented the fire. As a result of the fire, the children will consider how life changed and how fire safety was improved.



COMMUNITY

The children will find out about fire safety from local firefighters and then share their knowledge with local preschool children by creating fire safety posters.



Home Learning Topic Challenge



As part of our DT lessons, the children will be looking at architecture. Can you create your own building using resources at home? E.g. Lego, Play-Doh or craft materials. The building can be for any purpose you choose. Take a photo of your creation to share with the class.

Did you know?



- * The fire lasted for just under 5 days.
- * 70,000 people lost their home and sadly 6 people died.
- * The weather in London was hot and it hadn't rained for 10 months!
- * Houses in London were mainly built from wood and straw which are flammable, especially when dry.
- * The fire started in Pudding Lane which is still there today.
- * The Navy blew up houses to try and stop the fire!

Landing

The children will invite their families to the Year 2 Great Fire Museum on Wednesday 7th February. They will share their new knowledge and the work they have produced as part of this topic. More details to follow.

