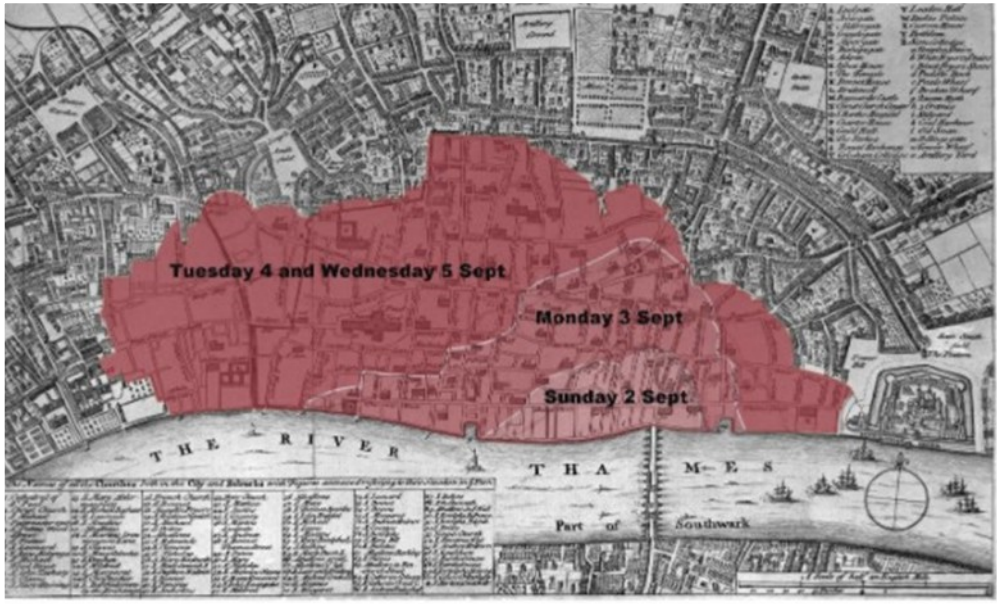
Was the Great Fire of London a disaster?

Spring 2026 Rec/Y1



Bakery—a shop where bread is made and sold.	Eye-witness— A person who saw an event and can describe it.
London—the capital city of England.	St Paul's Cathedral—A very large church in London that was rebuilt after the fire.
Diary—a book that people write about their lives in.	Embers— A small piece of burning wood or coal in a dying fire.
Firebreak—a gap that stops the fire spreading.	Firehook— A pole with a hooked metal end used for fighting fires.

Key People
King Charles II
Samuel Pepys
Thomas Farriner

Timeline of Events

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.

Sunday 2nd September 1666
The fire starts at 1 a.m.
Mid-morning: Samuel Pepys 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.